

GRAPEVINE

VISITACION VALLEY

NUMBER 261

SERVING OUR COMMUNITY

APRIL 2008

Contemplating the Possible End of a Valley Landmark



Located in Daly City, the Cow Palace has been a venue for memorable events since its opening in November 1941.

Whither the Cow Palace?

by Betty Parshall

The March 8 meeting of the Visitation Valley Planning Alliance was well attended when notice was given the Senator Leland Yee would be present to discuss the bill he has introduced in the State Senate to sell the Cow Palace property to Daly City.

About 50 people attended, including some from Bayshore City who have the most immediate interest in seeing development of community services in their neighborhood. Daly City Manager Pat Martell spoke first and presented the history of the effort to acquire some of the Cow Palace land to meet the needs of the surrounding neighborhood.

Residents have long sought a large grocery store and other services such as a bank, post office, and other retail businesses. Daly City has designated one area, not including the Cow Palace, as a redevelopment area, and has been meeting with Cow Palace representatives in an attempt to reach an agreement. When negotiations broke

down, Senator Yee's help was sought and he agreed to introduce Senate Bill 1527, which does include the entire Cow Palace property.

Yee spoke about the lack of community resources in Bayshore City. He said that Visitation Valley is in better shape than Bayshore City in terms of resources, citing its commercial street and the Greenway, which was obtained from the PUC for open space.

He went on to talk about the State's dire shortfall of funds and how letters are going out to teachers warning them of possible layoffs, and how the Cow Palace sale could help offset the State deficit.

A slide show presented a picture of the designated redevelopment area and detailed the history of negotiations that resulted in SB 1527. Also detailed was the process necessary to accomplish the sale. Questions were then taken from the audience.

Is the site contaminated? This is unknown, environmental status would be addressed in any future development plans.

Can the Cow Palace be preserved? Yee emphasized the State budget

crisis and said there are no funds to address earthquake safety and ADA concerns.

Is the Cow Palace a drain on General Funds? Yee said yes, it is.

At this point a Brisbane resident categorized the bill as a land grab by Daly City, stating that Brisbane, San Francisco and Daly City have to work together in deciding issues that affect the communities in the geographic area.

Another speaker made a plea for cooperation and collaboration in addressing the Cow Palace question as well as other concerns.

Senator Yee then had to excuse himself as he had another meeting to attend at 11 a.m. in Bayshore City. It was of interest to note that Walter Haub, the chief executive officer of the Cow Palace, was present at the meeting but not on the agenda to speak due to time constraints.

The Outer Mission Association has scheduled the Cow Palace sale on its agenda for a Monday, April 7 meeting at 7 p.m. Their meetings are held at the Cocker Amazon Recreation Center, Moscow and Italy streets.

Commission Approves Development Teams for Three Public Housing Sites

Mayor Gavin Newsom's HOPE SF Initiative reached a major milestone on Mar. 11 when the San Francisco Housing Authority (SFHA) Commission selected three development teams to revitalize the Sunnydale, Potrero Terrace and Annex, and the Westside Courts public housing sites. Together these sites have 1,531 of SFHA's most distressed family housing units.

"We must recommit ourselves to the notion that every San Franciscan deserves a decent place to live," said Mayor Newsom. "That's why we must finish the job of making sure every single remaining public housing unit is rebuilt to excellent standards, so that residents can be as proud of their homes as they are of their city."

The developers were selected through a Request For Qualifications (RFQ) for HOPE SF that drew nine development teams from across the country.

The selected development teams include a mix of highly qualified for-profit and nonprofit partners as well as a combination of local, statewide and national firms. All of the teams have significant residential development and public housing redevelopment experience in the Bay Area. The development teams include:

*Sunnydale: Mercy Housing California, The Related Companies of

California (William Witte), and the Visitation Valley Community Development Corporation.

*Potrero Terrace and Potrero Annex: BRIDGE Housing Corporation, BRIDGE Urban Infill Land Development (BUILD), and the John Stewart Company.

*Westside Courts: Em Johnson Interest; TMG Partners; and McCormack Baron Ragan Property Management.

With the selection of these teams, SFHA now has selected development partners for four HOPE SF sites.

The first HOPE SF site, Hunters View, a 267-apartment complex in the Bayview District, is far along in the predevelopment process and is expected to break ground in the Summer of 2009. That site is being developed by a partnership of the John Stewart Company, Devine and Gong and Ridgepoint Development Corporation.

The SFHA Commission action allows the SFHA to enter into Exclusive Negotiating Agreements (ENAs) with the development teams.

These development teams will then be eligible for HOPE SF funding from the Mayor's Office of Housing to begin predevelopment work on the selected sites. This work will include site planning and community engagement with residents and neighbors of the HOPE SF sites as well as financial and architectural analysis.

The primary goal of HOPE SF is to rebuild San Francisco's most distressed public housing sites; while increasing affordable housing and ownership opportunities, and improving the quality of life for existing residents and the surrounding communities. The San Francisco Housing Authority is the oldest housing authority in California. It oversees 6,156 units of public housing and 10,129 Housing Vouchers.

Burton Students Take Spring College Tour

Transcripts in hand, more than two dozen students from Burton High School went on the African American Scholastic Program's Spring College Tour in late March, visiting historically black colleges and universities, including Florida A&M University, Morehouse and Spelman Colleges, and Tuskegee University.

Local Girl Scouts Surpass Cookie Goal



Alenah Bruswick had a successful selling experience on Leland Avenue.

by Katherine Williams

Ti-Ka Wallace, a first-grader at Visitation Valley Elementary School, and her Girl Scout Troop just finished their first experience of selling Girl Scout Cookies.

Troop 409 is a group of seven girls from San Francisco and San Mateo. In their first year of Brownie Girl Scouts, the girls (and their parents) sold more than 2000 boxes of cookies, two times their goal. Money raised by the girls will help support their activities for next year, including field trips, craft making, and earning badges.

The Girl Scouts give thanks to all who bought cookies and appreciation to Joe Leland Café for allowing them to sell in front of the coffee shop for two Saturday mornings.

Other Girl Scouts in the neighborhood also sold cookies. Alenah Bruswick, a student at S.F. Christian School, was out selling Girl Scout cookies in front of Bank of America at Leland Avenue and



A smile and another box of cookies sold for Ti-Ka Wallace of Troop 409.

Bayshore Boulevard on Saturday, Mar. 15. Her parents were also there to help her. Alenah's mom grew up in Visitation Valley and now lives in the neighborhood with her family.

For more information about Girl Scouting in the Bay Area go to <http://www.girlscoutsnorcal.org>.

California Budget Cuts Hit Visitation Valley Schools

by Katherine Williams

As budget cuts are eminent in California for the next fiscal year, what does this mean for Visitation Valley?

Many of us have already heard that Candlestick is one of the parks that proposed to be closed to trim the state budget. Our neighborhood schools will also be greatly affected.

The budget cuts mean that Visitation Valley Elementary School (VVES) will have to cut \$156,000 from its budget next year. This translates to the loss of one teacher and less hours for paraprofessionals at "Little Vis" who assist the teachers and administration.

How will these cuts affect students? Currently the state mandates that grades K-3 maximum class size is 20 students. However for grades 4 and 5, the maximum

is 33 students. These will be the students most affected.

The School Site Council (SSC) is the body of parents, teachers, administrators and community members that oversee the budget and academic plan for the school. The SSC has proposed cutting a fifth grade teacher, reducing the number of fifth grade classes from three to two.

About three years ago when there was additional money in the school budget, the School Site Council (SSC) voted to add a teacher to the fifth grade to decrease class size. The cuts will be difficult for teachers in the upper grade says second grade teacher Jeffrey Hunter because it is hard to give kids the attention they need with 33 students in the classroom.

VVES and other San Francisco schools may get some help from

the city's rainy day fund. Although this will help, the superintendent will determine how to disperse the funds and may choose to hold some of the money for the 2009-10 budget.

What can the community do? More than 60 administrators traveled to Sacramento on March 3 to lobby for public school funding.

Fourth grade teacher Johnny Spearmon urges community businesses to consider donating to the school. By cutting other expenses, \$80,000 will fund the retention of a teacher.

The PTA and VVES are also pursuing fundraising opportunities. Families can send their Cambell's labels and box tops from various products to the school.

Also, because of large classroom size, volunteers in the classroom could greatly help teachers and staff. Volunteers do not have to teach students; teachers always need help making copies, putting up displays, preparing material for the class, and just being an extra set of eyes in the classroom.

Staff can also use an extra set of hands with all the work they do for the school.

SSC meetings are open to the public, parents and community members are encouraged to attend. If you would like to help, please contact Principal Vincent Chao at 415-469-4796.

Smitty's Market Long Valley History

by The Visitation Valley History Project

Smitty's Market has closed its doors forever. Located at 2610 Bayshore Blvd., the little store's last years of existence sadly pale in comparison to the establishment's long and proud history as a Visitation Valley institution.

Smitty's Market story begins surprisingly in Kansas, with the birth of Farrell 'Smitty' Smith in 1909. Mr. Smith upbringing on a farm in-

stilled within the young man a work ethic and strength that would come to serve him well. Mr. Smith and his wife Loretta moved to San Francisco near the end of WWII to work in the shipyards.

After the War, Mr. Smith worked as a clerk at Brownie's Market on Leland Avenue, a fine job at the time but not the type of employment that would secure his growing family's financial future.

See Page 9

Grapevine Mailbox

Proposal for Cow Palace

The following letter was generated in reaction to recently announced proposed legislation that would sell the Cow Palace to Daly City for demolition to build new housing:

To: Governor Schwarzenegger, Senator Feinstein, Senator Boxer, State Senator Yee, Senator Migden, Senator Denham, Senator Wyland, Assemblyman Leno, State Department of Agriculture, Mayor Newsom, Mayor Klatt, Daly City Council Members, Mayor Barnes, S.F. Board of Supervisors, S.F. Board of Education, San Mateo Board of Education, S.F. Police Commissioners, Mayor's Office of Community Development, Department of Children Youth and Families, S.F. Planning Department, San Francisco Tomorrow, Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation and Haas Foundation

From: Concerned Residents of San Francisco and San Mateo

Re: Opposition to SB 1527 — Destruction of a Landmark

Our Win-Win Pproposal: Cow Palace to Youth Palace!

The Feb. 28, 2008 San Francisco Chronicle article of the possible bulldozing of the venerable Cow Palace caused widespread resident opposition from both San Francisco and San Mateo.

The Cow Palace is the largest indoor stadium and an impressive historic landmark that should be preserved for present and future generations. If destroyed, it can never be replaced.

Convert the Cow Palace to a "Youth Palace" by creating innovative, educational, recreational and mentoring programs for children, youth and their families in both San Francisco and San Mateo.

1. Collaboration between San Mateo and San Francisco counties to increase youth programs that can highlight their potentials. Such bold and innovative youth programs will invite federal, state, city and private fundings due to the longterm and positive impacts.

2. Providing opportunities for education and recreation is a viable and practical approach to prevent increasing violence and homicides amongst this age group. Stop California's youth dropout costs equalling \$46,400,000,000. (Feb. 28, 2008 SFGate.com)

3. Reverse California's prison trend by providing more funds for education. Prevention and intervention programs for youth to avoid the record-high ratio of: one in 100 Americans are in prison! (Feb. 28, 2008, Yahoo! News)

4. Continuous funding to maintain the innovative youth programs can come from the sale of a small portion of the Cow Palace parking lot.

5. Both San Francisco and San Mateo benefit from the creation of more "child-friendly" cities by preventing families from moving out and which can ruin our school systems and drain city funds.

6. If San Pablo city can create "A Giant Success" from a former dump into a thriving community, why not convert our huge venerable Cow Palace into a convenient one-stop location to include social agencies to serve our children, youth and families? (Mar. 3, 2008, S.F.Chronicle)

7. Opportunity to shed the "political orphan" image of the southeast sector of San Francisco and improve on the areas around the

Cow Palace. Help our residents regain our dignity and prestige by providing much-needed resources for our children, youth and their families.

8. Promotion of much needed economic, educational, cultural opportunities for all our children, youth and families can create more jobs that are beneficial to all.

9. Encourage sporting and recreational events in this huge historical landmark to cut the increasing obesity problems amongst children and teens.

10. Let's invest in our children, youth and their families by focusing on excellence, leadership, scholarship and recreation for them.

11. Expand indoor sport and recreational programs to host citywide, inter-county and state competitions, and preserving many current cultural and prominent events for more attractions to the new "Youth Palace." The Win-Win proposal!

Tip About Your Car Keys

Put your car keys beside your bed at night. If you hear a noise outside your home or someone trying to get in your house, just press the panic button for your car. The alarm will be set off, and the horn will continue to sound until either you turn it off or the car battery dies.

This tip came from a neighborhood watch coordinator. Next time you come home for the night and you start to put your keys away, think of this:

It's a security alarm system that you probably already have and requires no installation. Test it. It will go off from most everywhere inside your house and will keep honking until your battery runs down or until you reset it with the button on the key fob chain. It works if you park in your driveway or garage. If your car alarm goes off when someone is trying to break in your house, odds are the burglar rapist won't stick around. After a few seconds all the neighbors will be looking out their windows to see who is out there and sure enough the criminal won't want that. And remember to carry your keys while walking to your car in a parking lot. The alarm can work the same way there.

This is something that should really be shared with everyone. Maybe it could save a life or a sexual abuse crime. It would also be useful for any emergency, such as a heart attack, where you can't reach a phone.

My Mom has suggested to my Dad that he carry his car keys with him in case he falls outside and she doesn't hear him. He can activate the car alarm and then she'll know there's a problem.

The Poem They Found

When an old man died in the geriatric ward of a small hospital near Tampa, Florida, it was believed that he had nothing left of any value. Later, when the nurses were going through his meager possessions, they found this poem.

Its quality and content so impressed the staff that copies were made and distributed to every nurse in the hospital. One nurse took her copy to Missouri. The old man's sole bequest to posterity has since appeared in the Christmas edition of the News Magazine of the St. Louis Association for Mental Health. A slide presentation has also been made based on his simple but eloquent, poem.

Crabby Old Man

What do you see nurses? What do you see?

What are you thinking ...when you're looking at me?

A crabby old man, ... not very wise,

Uncertain of habit ... with far-away eyes?

Who dribbles his food ... and makes no reply.

When you say in a loud voice.....'I do wish you'd try!'

Who seems not to notice ..the things that you do.

And forever is losing . A sock or shoe?

Who, resisting or not ... lets you do as you will,

With bathing and feeding ... The long day to fill?

Is that what you're thinking? Is that what you see?

Then open your eyes, nurse ... you're not looking at me.

I'll tell you who I am ... as I sit here so still,

As I do at your bidding ... as I eat at your will.

I'm a small child of 10 ... with a father and mother,

Brothers and sisters ... who love one another.

A young boy of 16 ... with wings on his feet

Dreaming that soon now ... a lover he'll meet.

A groom soon at 20 ... my heart gives a leap.

Remembering, the vows ... that I promised to keep.

At twenty-five now ... I have young of my own.

Who need me to guide And a secure happy home.

A man of 30 ... my youngs now grown fast,

Bound to each other ... with ties that should last.

At 40 my young sons ... have grown and are gone,

But my woman is beside me ... to see I don't mourn.

At 50, once more ... babies play 'round my knee,

Again, we know children ... my loved one and me.

Dark days are upon me ... my wife is now dead.

I look at the future ... I shudder with dread.

For my youngs are all rearing ... youngs of their own.

And I think of the years ... and the love that I've known.

I'm now an old man ... and nature is cruel.

'Tis jest to make old age ... look like a fool.

The body, it crumbles ... grace and vigor depart.

There is now a stone ... where I once had a heart.

But inside this old carcass ... a young guy still dwells,

And now and again ... my battered heart swells

I remember the joys ... I remember the pain.

And I'm loving and living ... life over again.

I think of the years all too few ... gone too fast.

And accept the stark fact ... that nothing can last.

So open your eyes people ... open and see..

Not a crabby old man, look closer ... see me!

by Stanley C. Baldwin

April Fools Day has murky origins, and there are many colorful legends about how it came to be. Some of the tales are April Fools jokes themselves. What we know is that people have practiced hi-jinks on April 1st since ancient times, just as humans have also enjoyed a long love affair with humor in general.

Ancient monarchs had court jesters, sometimes called fools, who were highly valued for their ability to make the king laugh. Those who weren't all that funny risked their positions and sometimes their heads. Today, skillful humorists and comedians are among our highest paid entertainers. We love to laugh.

Over the years imaginative people have come up with many clever and funny April Fools stunts. One favorite, described in museum of hoaxes.com, is the April 1, 1998 full page newspaper ad by Burger King that introduced the "Left-handed Whopper." All of the condiments were rotated 180 degrees for the 32 million lefties in America. Great numbers of people ordered the new

Grapevine on the Web

Read current and past stories from the Visitation Valley Grapevine at www.visvalleygrapevine.com.

City Communities Receive Awards For Promoting Healthy Environment

by Mayor Gavin Newsom

San Francisco is considered by many as one of America's greatest cities. With our iconic landmarks, world-class shopping and dining and renowned diverse neighborhoods and communities, our city continues to be a top travel destination for millions of visitors each year. San Francisco also takes great pride in being one of America's Greenest Cities as recently named by Popular Science Magazine.

As Mayor I am dedicated to working with businesses and communities to continue San Francisco's leadership in advancing innovative projects that help protect our environment and reduce global warming. I am proud of the eco-measures that we already have in place such as our strict green building standards, low-emission goals for the city's vehicle fleet, carbon tax proposal, tidal energy project, prohibition against plastic water bottles and plastic bags and my executive order for all city departments to purchase 100 percent recycle paper and reduce overall paper use by 20 percent by 2010.

But we all must do our part in keeping San Francisco both a great city and a green city with clean streets and healthy and vibrant public spaces. I believe clean and green neighborhoods are essential to the quality of life, economic development, social fabric, and environmental health of San Francisco. I am pleased to recognize those residents and businesses in the city who have taken on the cause of promoting and supporting a healthier environment through their participation in our Community Challenge Grant Program (CCGP).

The goals of the Program are to promote greening of public spaces, such as medians, sidewalks, and community gardens; engage residents and businesses directly in this work; and use greening projects as a catalyst to get neighborhoods working together to address local environmental issues and concerns.

The CCG focuses on projects that directly engage residents and businesses in creating green spaces, community gathering places, public art, and other neighborhood amenities that foster a clean and green city and advancing a healthy environment.

I am pleased to congratulate the following organizations that received grants from the CCG Advisory Committee for the 2007-2008 cycle.

Small Category (Awarded \$16,950.00)

"Mission Miracle Mile, Inc., awarded \$7,450 to install twenty hanging flower baskets on Mission Street.

"Friends of Boeddeker Park, sponsored by SF Parks Trust, awarded \$5,000 to install a community bulletin board at the entrance to the park.

"Twin Peaks Improvement Association, awarded \$4,500 to update an existing irrigation system and make landscape improvements at Edith's Garden.

Medium Category (Awarded \$114,036.00)

"Larkin St. Youth Services, awarded \$19,226 to Project: Youth Day Labor Crews will provide graffiti/litter abatement in an eight-block area between Fell St., Fulton St., Lyon St., and Central Avenue.

"Fishermen's Wharf CBD, awarded \$13,050 to install thirty hanging flower baskets on South Jefferson Street.

"Randall Museum Friends, awarded \$25,000 to install seating and a picnic area on the grounds of the Randall Museum.

"North Beach Partnership/SF Clean City Coalition, awarded \$22,000 for a homeless-staffed street maintenance program in the North Beach area.

"Portola Neighborhood Committee/CIF of the SF Foundation, awarded \$21,120 for sidewalk and tree maintenance and graffiti/litter abatement program along San Bruno Avenue.

"Ocean Ave. Revitalization Collaborative/OMI Neighbors In Action, awarded \$13,640 for sidewalk power washing services on Ocean Avenue, awarded

Large Category (Awarded \$468,584.00)

"Kid Serve Youth Murals, awarded \$25,000 to create a mosaic tile mural at Grattan Elementary School located in Cole Valley.

"North of Market/Tenderloin CBD, awarded \$53,750 to create a mural in the Tenderloin area, located at 86-98 Golden Gate Avenue and Jones Street.

"North West Bernal Alliance, awarded \$48,421 for Continued graffiti abatement and neighborhood beautification on Mission Street.

"Hayes Valley Neighborhood Parks Group/TIDES Center, awarded \$50,000 for Structural improvements at Koshland Park, located in the Western Addition.

"Architecture for Humanity, awarded \$71,500 for Continued support of the Newcomb Avenue Model Block Program.

"Excelsior Action Group/CIF of the SF Foundation, awarded \$8,492 for installation of community banners along Mission Street.

"Fillmore Jazz CBD, awarded \$27,281 to install planter boxes, benches and community banners along Fillmore Street.

"Lower 24th St. Merchants & Neighborhood Assn/ SF Clean City Coalition, awarded \$30,140 to create a "Night Gallery" mural-walk on Mission Street.

"Friends of Balboa Park/Neighborhood Parks Council, awarded \$75,000 to construct a sidewalk to provide safe pedestrian access to the park and landscaping.

"Mariposa-Utah -18th-San Bruno Neighborhood Assn/ Neighborhood Parks Council, awarded \$40,000 for beautification and landscaping at the Utah and 18th Street Mini-Park.

"Alemany Resident Management Corp/Renaissance Parents of Success, awarded \$39,000 to rebuild an existing greenhouse, restore and repaint the Farm signage and plant new gardens.

CCG funds project from \$10,000 to \$100,000 twice a year, the opening date and timeline for its next grant cycle will be announced mid-April 2008. If you would like additional information about CCG and the funding process, please call 554-4830 or log on to the website: www.sfccgp.org.

Just Trying to Figure out What's Funny and What's Not?

Whoppers, while other customers specified they wanted the original Whopper. Filling the different orders was easy since there was absolutely no difference between the two.

Imaginative April Fools "news" items have featured pickle farming and instructions on how to grow spaghetti (you plant it in tomato sauce). One item reported a scandal—the use of performance enhancing steroids by concert violinists. (No doubt most offenses were by bass violinists.) And then there was the report of a high tech breakthrough resulting in software to translate dog barks into English.

All of these gags roped in huge numbers of people, all in good fun. Such harmless humor is a great gift, but the operative word here is harmless. On April 1, 1999 a Bend, Oregon radio station said the Ochoco dam had burst and residents downstream needed to evacuate immediately. The panic that ensued was perhaps funny to the perpetrators, but it was cruel to the down-streamers.

Thoughtless or mean stunts not only take the fun out of the day but they have also led to serious consequences not only for the victims but also for the perpetrators, some of who have lost their jobs or been sued.

Getting our laughs to other people's detriment is more cruel than funny, whether on April 1 or any other date. Often such humor is mean-spirited, as when radio talk show host Don Imus called the Rutgers women's basketball team "nappy-headed hos" (whores). Or when Ann Coulter said (in jest?) that liberals are godless, stupid, traitors, and Commies.

Laughing at others can be hurtful even when it is innocent. When Miranda Baldwin was four years old, her grandmother, who had taught her to take care of her clothes, asked one day, "Miranda, are your clothes all hanging up?" Miranda nodded very seriously, then paused, "Well, actually, they are hanging down."

Her grandmother burst out laughing until Miranda scowled and said, "Girls aren't funny, Grandma!" Her grandmother realized that the child felt ridiculed and disrespected. Instead of disallowing the child's feelings or simply telling her to lighten up, Grandma was kind enough to honor those feelings and control her amusement.

Like almost everything else in our society, humor can be used to serve people or to abuse them. Seems like it should be a simple choice.

GRAPEVINE
VISITACION VALLEY

Editor: Len Apptano

Published monthly by Visitation Valley Community Center, 50 Raymond Avenue, San Francisco, CA 94134, (415) 467-9300; Fax: 467-3787; visvalley@earthlink.net; Web: www.visvalleygrapevine.com

Opinions expressed in the Visitation Valley Grapevine are not necessarily those of Visitation Valley Community Center.

VVCC Executive Director: Julia A. Kavanagh

Visitation Valley Grapevine, named by Pat Crocker, is a Registered California Trademark of Visitation Valley Community Center © 2008 VVCC. All rights reserved.

Bill to Protect Journalism Teachers and Student Speech

by Senator Leland Yee

At the National College Newspaper Convention in San Francisco on February 29th I announced legislation to protect high school and college teachers from retaliation by administrators as a result of student speech. Throughout the country and the State of California there have been numerous instances in which a journalism teacher or professor is disciplined for content in a student newspaper. In fact I have learned of cases in San Francisco, Los Angeles, Claremont, Fremont, Novato, Oxnard, Rialto, and Garden Grove.

In response to these unfair dismissals or instances of censorship, I have authored Senate Bill 1370 which follows a 2006 law, which I authored, prohibiting censorship of college press by administrators and protecting students from being disciplined for engaging in speech or press activities.

There have been a number of documented cases throughout the state of journalism advisors being dismissed or reassigned due to student speech. In fact I have learned of cases in San Francisco, Los Angeles, Claremont, Fremont, Novato, Oxnard, Rialto, and Garden Grove.

California has always led the way in making sure true freedom of the press is alive and well in our academic institutions. Allowing a school administration to inhibit the freedom of academic press by employing censor in any way runs contrary to fundamental American values, and hamstring the ability of a student newspaper to serve as the watchdog over the actions of school administrators. It is quite dis-

heartening to hear that after we specifically prohibited prior restraint by administrators, that some are engaging in this type of nefarious activity and even firing quality teachers because of content in the student-run newspaper.

Specifically, SB 1370 would prohibit an employee from being dismissed, suspended, disciplined, re-assigned, transferred, or otherwise retaliated against for acting to protect a student's speech.

A Los Angeles Unified School District case is one of many where a highly respected and successful newspaper advisor was removed from his position. In November 2006, a student newspaper published an editorial criticizing random searches conducted on campus. The newspaper advisor, Darryl Adams, was immediately removed after refusing to eliminate the editorial at the principal's request. Adams was later removed as basketball coach and even as announcer for the football games.

"In a span of four months, they all but stripped me of my professional existence," said Adams.

Another case involved Janet Ewell, a Garden Grove tenured teacher and certified journalism educator, who was removed as newspaper advisor in 2002 despite her students winning numerous journalism awards. The schools principal admitted to student reporters that he had removed Ewell as a result of editorials that ran in the school newspaper. The editorials focused on such issues as the school bathrooms, cafeteria food and a teacher who was unavailable to help students.

Ronnie Campagna, a journalism

teacher of 18 years at San Marin High School in Novato, was removed in 2003 and replaced by a new teacher with no previous journalism experience after the student paper published stories critical of the administration. For example, one story criticized the school administration for not letting students stand up in the bleachers during varsity basketball games. The school board went so far as to attempt to dissolve the entire program until parents protested and even offered to fund the class themselves.

In San Francisco, journalism and English teacher Katharine Swan was told that she must find a different school in which to teach after her students covered a first-year principal's attempts to effect prior restraint and influence coverage of events occurring at the school.

"Since administrators are unable by law to exercise prior restraint with regard to a student publication, they lean on advisers to do what they legally cannot," said Jim Ewert, Legal Counsel for the California Newspaper Publishers Association. "When advisers refuse, they are punished because administrators know they will face no legal consequences. Senate Bill 1370 is necessary to close this gaping loophole in the law."

The bill is expected to pass the State Legislature and be signed by the Governor. In fact, in signing my 2006 law, Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger said, "Freedom of speech is the cornerstone of our democracy. Students working on college newspapers deserve the same rights afforded to every other student journalist."

Construction Soon on Branch Library



A north elevation rendering of the Visitacion Valley Branch Library from last October, courtesy of San Francisco Bureau of Architecture.

As part of the bond measure overwhelmingly passed by the voters in November 2000, the San Francisco Public Library is replacing the Visitacion Valley Branch Library. The branch is currently located in a small leased facility. The Library purchased the Super Fair Market property, at the corner of Leland and Rutland, to build a new branch.

After a series of community meetings, plans for a new library were designed. Key features of the current design include:

- *Stand alone library, approximately 8,500 square feet
- *ADA accessible
- *Corner entrance with prominent design to give a civic presence to the building
- *Service desk with sight lines to all areas of the library
- *Children, teens, and adults separated for privacy
- *New program room accessible after hours for community use
- *Different roof heights with acoustical treatments to create quiet spaces
- *Study room to allow space for quiet independent study
- *Windows to provide lighting and natural ventilation to all areas of library

*Courtyards available for outside library programming
*Staff area organized for the efficient handling of returned materials

*Flexible design to accommodate future uses

*Comfortable reading areas

*Space for more books and other materials

*More computers

*Express self-checkout machines

*Accessible restrooms for public and staff

*Wireless (Wi-Fi) access to the internet

*Green Building features (LEED Silver equivalent)

Design work restarted in summer 2007 and the new branch is scheduled to open in 2010.

The Friends of the San Francisco Public Library are raising funds from private donations for furniture, fixtures, and equipment for the branch library. For information on the Visitacion Valley neighborhood campaign, contact marian.ctaylor@friendsfpl.org.

If you like to find out more information, please ask the branch manager, check www.sfpl.org, call the Branch Library Improvement Program at (415) 557-4354, or email BLIP@sfpl.org.

Record Oil Price Drives California Gas Prices to New High

The relentless surge in the cost of crude oil pushed gasoline prices to an all time high in California. According to a new report in March from AAA of Northern California, which tracks fuel costs as a service to consumers, the statewide average cost for a gallon of regular gasoline on Mar. 11 was a record high \$3.58, a 46-cent increase since the last AAA gas price report on Feb. 12.

"The cost of crude oil, the raw material from which gas is made, has reached a record high price of \$108 per barrel," said Sean Comey, spokesperson for AAA of Northern California. "A year ago it was selling for about \$60."

Why crude has gone up so much is not entirely clear. The plummeting value of the dollar is one reason why oil prices have risen. Oil is bought and sold in U.S. dollars, so when they are worth less, it takes more of them to buy a barrel of oil. Falling currency values do not seem to be sufficient to account for the entire run up in crude prices. Financial speculation in the commodities market may also be one of the forces that has led to higher oil prices.

"The number of times a barrel of

oil changes hands on paper between the time it's pumped out of the ground and when it's turned into gas at a refinery has increased significantly," said Comey. "The people who are making these trades aren't running charities. They're trying to squeeze profit out of each transaction, and it stands to reason that would gin up the ultimate cost paid by the consumer."

The most expensive average gas price in the Northern California communities where AAA monitors fuel costs was in Tahoe City, where regular unleaded sold for \$3.75 per gallon. The lowest price among Northern California cities tracked by AAA was in Chico, where gas cost an average of \$3.51 per gallon.

Throughout Northern California, the average price was \$3.60, up 45 cents since the last AAA gas price report. In the Bay Area, the average price was \$3.72, an increase of 42 cents from last month.

The nationwide average price of self-serve regular gasoline was \$3.23, up 27 cents from last month's AAA gas price report. That ties the previous record high price. The average statewide price in California was 35 cents per gallon higher than the national average.

The least expensive gasoline in the country was found in Cheyenne, Wyoming, where regular unleaded cost an average of \$2.97. The highest average price in the nation is in Wailuku, Hawaii, on the island of Maui, where a gallon of regular unleaded cost \$3.93. No state in the country now has an average gas price below \$3.

Saving Money on Gas

*Avoid Luxury Gas: Premium fuel costs about 20-25 cents a gallon more than regular. If your car doesn't need premium grade fuel, don't buy it. You're just wasting your money. Check your owner's manual. If the manufacturer does not require high octane fuel, your car will run just as well on the least expensive gas.

*Shop Aggressively: Since prices change overnight, the gas station that offered the best deal last time you filled up may be the most ex-

pensive the next time your tank is empty. AAA of Northern California has a tool that can help. Located online at www.aaa.com/gasprices, the AAA Fuel Finder has real time information on gas prices at more than 85,000 gas stations throughout the United States.

*Check Your Tires: For every pound of pressure your tires are under-inflated, you could be losing up to 2 percent of your gas mileage. Tires could be down by five pounds or more and still appear to be properly inflated, but you could be buying 10 percent more gas than you actually need. If you don't want to do it yourself, ask the service technician to check the tires the next time you have your oil changed.

*Drive Conservatively: A lead foot can add significantly to your fuel bill. By driving the speed limit, accelerating slowly, anticipating stops by taking your foot off the gas pedal and taking excess weight out of your vehicle, you can often improve your fuel economy.

*Use Discounts: Take advantage of credit cards offer discounts on gas purchases. With the AAA Rewards Visa card, customers earn 5 percent back on gas purchased at the pump. More information is available online at aaa.com/creditcard or your local AAA office.

Great Ways to Stay Fit and Healthy

by Anh Le

As we all know, a top priority for each of us is to stay fit and healthy and enjoy the rich blessings of life.

According to Becky Hanvey, Senior Director of Health and Wellness Programs at the Stonestown Family YMCA in San Francisco, the following 12 Steps to a Healthy Lifestyle can offer us some guidelines:

1. Contact your local YMCA facility and get a "Fitness Orientation" with a wellness coach. She or he will meet with you, and have a dialogue to discover healthy lifestyle choices that incorporate a holistic approach to wellness.
2. Get at least 30 - 90 minutes of exercise daily. Walking and stretching exercises are two excellent forms of exercise. Exercises that build muscle strength are also important. You can buy elastic resistance bands to perform simple exercises at home to build muscle strength. For individuals with limited mobility, you can learn exercises that can be done while sitting in a chair.
3. Eat at least 4 to 5 servings of fruits and vegetables daily.
4. Eat less than 30 percent of calories from FAT daily, with less than 10 percent of the fat calories from animal products.

animal products.

5. Eat at least 30 grams of FIBER daily. Fiber-rich foods include whole grains, whole wheat, oatmeal, bran, and fruits and vegetables.

6. Drink at least 64 ounces of water daily (8 or more glasses of water).

7. Get at least 7 to 8 hours of sleep nightly.

8. Manage risk factors for heart disease, diabetes, and cancer. Your medical doctor, nurse, pharmacist, and dentist can help you identify these factors and monitor your progress. Some risks factors include hypertension (high blood pressure), smoking, high cholesterol, glucose levels, inactivity, poor nutrition, obesity, and genetics.

9. Control dependencies such as caffeine, nicotine, and sugar.

10. Attend a wellness class, lecture, or health fair.

11. Volunteer at a local community center, school, hospital, or organization of your choice where you can give back to the community. The goal is to remain involved in your neighborhood and in your community.

12. Establish and nurture relationships with friends, neighbors, and others, keeping in close touch with family members.

Schedule regular appointments with your medical doctor, dentist, nurse, and other health practitioners, to get your check-ups and recommended tests. Discuss with them any health concerns or questions you may have.

The Network for Elders, a community organization which helps Seniors and Adults with Disabilities, offers three free exercise classes and one line dancing class. These wonderful and fun classes are held at the Joseph Lee Gymnasium, and also at City College of San Francisco, Southeast Campus. You'll love them! You can go to the classes anytime, no pre-registration is needed. For more information, please contact the Network for Elders at (415) 647-5353.

The Network for Elders' Resource Centers provide information, assistance, and referrals for Seniors and Adults with Disabilities. In the Bayview / Hunters Point community, please contact (415) 401-7200. In the Visitacion Valley / Portola / Excelsior community, please contact (415) 330-1789.

Project Rebound Presents

CSU College Tour

April 14, 2008

San Francisco State University
Rosa Parks F
10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Mark Your Calendar

Contact

Tyne Johnson
Project Rebound Intern
sfsu_pr@yahoo.com

or

Micheal Bennett
Weed and Seed Director
mbennett@vvbeacon.org

If you have students who are interested in attending.

Visitacion Valley Child Care Food Program

Visitacion Valley Community Center announces sponsorship of the Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP). Meals will be available at no separate charge to children enrolled at all Visitacion Valley Community Center's Children's Programs centers. "The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination in all its programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, gender, religion, age, disability, or political beliefs. Persons with disabilities who require alternate means of communication for program information (Braille, large print, audio tape, etc.) should contact USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (Voice and TDD)."

"To file a discrimination complaint, write USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, Room 326-W, Whitten Building, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, D.C. 20250-9410 or call (202) 720-5964 (Voice and TDD). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer."

For Information regarding enrollment, contact: Visitacion Valley Community Center, 50 Raymond Avenue, San Francisco, CA. 94134; (415) 467-6400.

McLaren Park News and Notes

by Betty Parshall

McLaren Park Earth Day Promises Fine Time for All

Plans for Earth Day in McLaren Park are progressing, with an eclectic entertainment program, various walks in the park – native species, butterflies, dog-related, to name a few, a bicycle kitchen where people can learn about bike maintenance and repair.

Yosemite Marsh Work Nears Completion

The draining, dredging and planting work at Yosemite Marsh is close to being completed and the prospect looks excellent for the rehabilitated and enlarged marsh. T-drains have been installed above the marsh so that irrigation and rain water is slowed down and dispersed over a much wider area on its way to the marsh. The viewing deck over the water will provide visitors with a closer look without trampling the marsh grasses that grow there.

*Licia, the native plants specialist, described the trees and plants that are going in, and in a year or two the landscape will be greatly enhanced. On the slopes above the marsh a variety of trees will soon be planted:

*Apple, cherry, oaks and alder are some that will be on higher ground, while wax myrtles and dogwood will be placed nearer the marsh area. Streamside there will be twin berry and pink flowering current shrubbery that will attract robins, thrushes and cedar-whitewings. A large number and variety of native plants are going in on the slopes too, which will hold the soil and attract insects that in turn will provide food for birds.

When the pond was dredged the turtles that were found were transported to McNab Lake. A lot of mud was dredged out providing a deeper pond which enhances the marsh as a natural habitat. Maybe the turtles will return. The lower bridge which crossed the gully will not be replaced in order to provide a more attractive and safer environment for wildlife.

It is worth noting that several high school students have spent time helping with the planting.

The Wilderness Arts and Literacy Collaborative is a non-profit that prepares young people for college environmental programs, among other activities. The WALC partners with the SF Natural Areas Program in restoring and preserving natural habitats in San Francisco and this has brought students from Balboa and Downtown high schools to McLaren Park to work, learn, and enjoy a good time outdoors. They all deserve our thanks.

And in Other Park News, Kelloch-Velasco Park is a Work in Progress

It's good to see that the renovation of Kelloch-Velasco Park started on schedule in February, with a target completion date of September 15. According to the Rec & Park web site, there will be pathways connecting lawn and play areas and defining picnic areas. The new play areas will be designed to comply with current playground safety guidelines and appeal to a wide range of ages. A large gazebo-like structure would be placed in the center for staged events and for architectural interest. The ball courts were resurfaced in 2001 and will remain unchanged.

San Francisco Keeping Children Safe Going to School

San Francisco's schools are changing in many ways. One way is in how kids get to and from school, causing concern over student safety. Schools are farther from home, fewer students are biking or walking to school, and traffic develops around schools as parents drop off their children from cars. Bicycling and walking are no longer the everyday routines learned early in life that they once were.

To enhance current school safety efforts, the SFMTA, in collaboration with the San Francisco Unified School District (SFUSD), YMCA of San Francisco and Bayan Consulting, has launched its School Area Bicycle, Pedestrian and Traffic Safety Project to pilot bicycle and pedestrian safety programs in schools as well as develop traffic circulation plans and fund parking enforcement.

Funding for this program is provided by a \$408,772 grant from the California Office of Traffic Safety (OTS), through the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

"The OTS grant is a significant opportunity for San Francisco to promote safe walking and bicycling for

children traveling to and from school," said Nathaniel P. Ford, Sr., SFMTA Executive Director/CEO. "Not only do we have funding to teach specific skills to our students, but we will be able to comprehensively address school-related traffic with education, engineering and enforcement."

In San Francisco, many parents will not allow their children to bicycle alone without comprehensive bicycle safety education and training. The national trend, which is reflected in San Francisco, away from walking and bicycling among youth has not only impacted children's mobility and independence, but also their physical activity levels. In spite of such trends, bicycling clubs have sprung up in San Francisco middle and high schools. With newly developed cognitive skills and the active exploration of boundaries and rules, middle school youth are at potentially higher risk for injury than other cyclists. The emergence of bike clubs and interest by school staff in after-school programs presents an opportunity to begin more systematic bicycle safety education of middle school

youth. The YMCA of San Francisco, through a contract with the SFMTA, will implement comprehensive bicycle safety education programs at eight project schools.

School area traffic safety is an ongoing concern in San Francisco. Because our schools were designed as local, neighborhood schools they rarely have parking lots, dedicated parking or even loading areas to accommodate school traffic. We must address the often hazardous situations created by double- and triple-parking, dropping children in the middle of crowded streets, and parking on sidewalks, in driveways and curb ramps, or blocking crosswalks that can cause injury collisions and further the perception of danger that prevents caregivers from allowing children to walk or bicycle to school. In cooperation with the SFUSD, individual elementary schools and Bayan Consulting, the SFMTA will develop and implement traffic circulation plans and a monitoring and enforcement program for passenger drop-off at twelve project schools to improve the safety of children walking and bicycling to school, as well as those who are driven to school.

"Life in urban areas is changing," said Christopher J. Murphy, Director of the California OTS. "We have to look at changing the ways we need to protect our children when they are out in the world. School is an enormous part of their lives, so we must ensure that they can get to and from school safely."

In
Memory
of
David
Travis
Mitchum



New S.F. Program for Homeowners at Risk of Foreclosure

In an effort to stem the increasing number of foreclosures in the city, Assessor-Recorder Phil Ting joined with local housing and legal counseling agencies recently to announce a new outreach program to help homeowners at risk of losing their homes to foreclosure.

Assessor-Recorder Ting will be sending letters to homeowners shortly after a Notice of Default has been publicly recorded with the city indicating non-payment of their mortgage loan. The letter informs homeowners of several resources available to help them remain in their home and avoid foreclosure. The letter provides contact information for housing counseling agencies and a legal assistance center and urges homeowners to seek help as soon as possible.

"I am pleased to be working with local counseling agencies to implement this outreach program. As foreclosures continue to rise in San Francisco, it is imperative that the city and the community work together to find practical solutions to this problem," Ting said. "I want homeowners who are having trouble paying their mortgage to know that there is help available to them."

In addition to English, the letters will also be translated into Spanish and Chinese, commonly spoken languages in San Francisco, in an effort to reach homeowners whose primary language is not English. These homeowners are often the victims of predatory lending practices and therefore are particularly at risk of losing their homes to foreclosure.

"Unfortunately, less than 50 percent of all homeowners in default contact their lenders," said Ed Donaldson, Housing Counseling Director at the San Francisco Housing Development Corporation, one of the agencies mentioned in the letter. "They avoid opening their mail and answering their phone. The best thing a homeowner can do if they expect to save their house is to contact their lender and a HUD-ap-

proved counseling agency sooner rather than later. We're here to help them do that," Donaldson said.

Jane Duong, Home Ownership Program Manager at the Mission Economic Development Agency (MEDA), another agency mentioned in the letter, explained "At MEDA, the lead agency of the city-wide anti-predatory lending campaign, we provide counseling in English and Spanish and can assist homeowners in understanding and navigating their options for avoiding foreclosure."

"We also know that with a public filing of the Notice of Default, many homeowners may be targets of foreclosure rescue scams. We hope that with this letter, homeowners will be

able to avoid these predatory practices and access legal services if they have been victims of foreclosure rescue scams," Duong said.

San Francisco has seen a dramatic increase in the number of mortgage defaults and foreclosures in the past couple of years. Since Jan. 1, there were approximately 430 Notices of Default recorded in San Francisco. The number of Notices of Default recorded rose approximately 68 percent between 2006 and 2007 (calendar year); the number of Trustee Deeds Upon Sale, documents recorded once a foreclosure has occurred, have jumped approximately 253 percent from 2006 to 2007.

Saturdays are Special at Randall Museum

The Randall Museum offers drop-in, hands-on art and science workshops every Saturday from 1 to 4 p.m. at 199 Museum Way (off Roosevelt, above the Castro). Workshops are \$3 per child; \$5 for a parent and child combo. All kids under 8 must be with a paying adult. Call 554-9600 for further information.

*Apr. 5: Build your own soaring glider and learn some surprising facts about flight

*Apr. 12: Cut and punch precious papers and glue and glitter a dazzling treasure bag.

*Apr. 19: Celebrate Earth Day. Paint your own flower pot and plant seeds that really grow.

Other regular Saturday activities include:

*Morning Family Ceramics from 10 to 11:30 a.m. (\$5 per person workshop fee)

*Meet the Animals from 11:15 a.m. to 12 noon.

*Animal Feeding at 12 noon.

*Golden Gate Model Railroad Club Exhibit from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Annual Bug Day

Do you adore arthropods, or do creepy crawlies make you queasy? Either way you'll find something here to tickle your fancy at the Randall Museum's annual festival of bugs, Bug Day, on Saturday, Apr. 26 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Explore the hoppers, slitherers, and crawlers or turn the tables and try a nibble of your own. Learn how important the huge variety of bugs is to the earth and our survival here.

Kids and their families can make their own fabulous bug-related crafts to take home, and play the buggiest games in town. Enjoy live entertainment and bring or purchase a picnic lunch to take advantage of a lawn with a view. Free admission; free and low-cost activities for all ages. Donations are welcome.

Visitation Valley History Project

A Saturday at the Grand National Rodeo

One sunny Saturday day in November 1947, a group of kids hanging out on Wilde Avenue discussed what to do next. Kick-the-can? Hide-and-seek? Dodge ball? The kids ranged in age from 11 to 13 years old, with the acknowledged leader 15-year-old Gloria Bischoff. Tall and lean for her age, Gloria was horse-crazy. She once talked her parents into letting her board a horse in the lot behind the back yard, a short-lived joy when a neighbor complained, screaming to the Health Department that a horse was looking in her back window.

But that's another story. This particular Saturday, Gloria decided, and of course all agreed, that a hike to the Cow Palace was the thing to do. The Grand National was on! So we set off, down the hill, across the Valley, and up through the (then) vacant land behind the pavilion buildings. We just had to carefully clamber through the barbed wire fence and we were in! No one noticed our back door entry, or didn't care. (This writer had a four-inch scar on her thigh as a souvenir of this little adventure.)

After a good time viewing all the livestock, the huge pigs were a favorite, Gloria led us into the arena. "Stand here," she ordered, and we huddled to one side as she went off and fell into conversation with an usher. "OK," she called, and led us in and up into the corner seats.

"It's OK as long as we sit up here," she told us. A great time was had by all, all the sweeter because we had got in free.

About 5 p.m., the show was over and we made the long trudge home, arriving just in time for dinner. "Where've you been?" the authorities asked. "Oh, just playing up on the hill."

A donated memory from Betty Parshall

Goodbye to the Cow Palace?

Given the current news about the possible sale of the Cow Palace to Daly City, it seems appropriate to devote this month's column to some of its history. The building was completed in 1941, but after just one Grand National Rodeo in November, the country went to war and it was used as a staging area for troops headed for the Pacific. Once the war was over, the Rodeo was again held in 1946, and has been an annual event ever since.

Just a few of the major events over the years:

1956: The Republican National Convention nominated Dwight D. Eisenhower for a second term as president.

1958: Billy Graham preached to tens of thousands of people over two months.

1960: During his presidential campaign, Senator John Kennedy told an audience of 20,000 about his plan to establish the Peace Corps.

1962: The San Francisco Warriors, formerly based in Philadelphia, chose the Cow Palace as their new arena.

1964: The Republican National Convention nominated Barry Goldwater for president.

1964 and 1965: The Beatles!

1970: Evel Knievel did his motorcycle jumps over trucks and cars.

1976: Elvis!!

1991: The Sharks played at the Cow Palace while awaiting the building of their San Jose arena.

2004: Metallica performs.

2006, 2007: Oracle events brought Elton John and Billy Joel as star attractions.

Do you have a favorite memory about the Cow Palace? Send it to the Grapevine: visvalley@earthlink.net

MURAL PAINTING PROJECT!

A Collaborative Community Mural

*Meet in the Visitation Valley Middle School Wellness Center

*Every Monday and Thursday beginning April 3rd from 3:15 to 5:15 p.m.

*Community painting party on Saturday May 10th and 17th from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Lunch will be provided

What is a mural?

It's a huge painting. With help from Precita Eyes muralists, you will design and paint a huge mural in front of the school auditorium. You do not need to know how to paint or draw. We will teach you and eat yummy snacks!

To sign up and for more information contact Beacon School Social Worker Amber Waters (415) 515-4267. This project is sponsored by Visitation Valley Middle School, Visitation Valley Beacon Center, and the Weed and Seed Violence Prevention Collaborative.

EarthTalk

Clean Coal

Dear EarthTalk: As I understand it, coal that is used to fuel power plants and other industrial activity is a key culprit in pollution and climate change. So what is "clean coal" and is it really? -Matthew Oliver, Minneapolis, MN

The term "clean coal" describes various processes that remove pollutants from coal, our cheapest, most abundant—and dirtiest—energy source. By reducing coal's environmental footprint through technological wizardry, the coal mining industry and the Bush administration hope to keep coal, which currently produces more than half of all U.S. electricity, a big part of our energy picture for many years to come.

Clean coal proponents also want to liquefy coal to turn it into a form of automotive fuel that, according to the industry-sponsored Coal-to-Liquids Coalition, costs less and burns cleaner in some ways than the traditional diesel fuel it could replace. Several members of Congress from coal states are keen on having the government subsidize the production of so-called liquid coal—which can be used anywhere diesel fuel currently goes—as a "homegrown" alternative to foreign oil. Industry analysts say there is enough coal in America to last hundreds of years, saving us untold expense and trouble obtaining regular petroleum from unfriendly foreign governments.

But major environmental groups, from the Sierra Club to the Natural Resources Defense Council, say that "clean coal" is anything but. The process involves heating coal to 1,000 degrees Fahrenheit and mixing it with water to produce a gas, then converting the gas into diesel fuel. Although the Coal-to-Liquids Coalition says that carbon dioxide emissions from the entire production cycle of liquid coal are "equal to, or slightly below, those of conventional petroleum-derived fuels," its claims are based on a single federal study, now six years old, that environmental leaders disagree with profoundly.

Jim Presswood, federal energy advocate of the Natural Resources Defense Council says, "Liquid CO2 emissions are twice as much as emissions from conventional petroleum-derived fuels." He says that even if CO2 emissions were captured as part of the process, at best liquid coal would be 12 percent worse than the gasoline equivalent. As some environmentalists have put it, liquid coal can turn any hybrid Prius into a Hummer.

The Washington Post editorialized, "To wean the U.S. off of just one million barrels of the 21 million barrels of crude oil consumed daily, an estimated 120 million tons of coal would need to be mined each year. The process requires vast amounts of water, particularly a concern in the parched West. And the price of a plant is estimated at \$4 billion." Also, in recent years, particularly in Appalachia, mining companies have gone from simple excavation to blasting off the tops of mountains in an ecologically devastating process known as "mountain top removal."

For their part, greens acknowledge the importance of cleaning up coal and other dirty energy sources, but would rather see more funding devoted to researching, developing and implementing alternative and renewable energy sources that don't come with so much environmental baggage.

Dear EarthTalk: Everybody says stop using plastic bags, but what about all the plastic, cellophane, cardboard and other materials used for packaging the food itself? What can we do to reduce how much of this unnecessary stuff comes wrapped around our food? -Sunil Sreedharan, Mumbai, India

Yes, food packaging is a big problem in North America as well as elsewhere around the world, with landfills filling up and recyclers facing a glut of materials to process. It's hard to say just how much of the 130 million tons of paper, plastic and metals that get tossed or sorted for recycling in major U.S. cities is from food packaging, but the percentage is no doubt sizable. The main problem is in the psychology of marketing: Manufacturers know that products in big flashy-looking packages attract more buyers.

A 1994 European Union directive requires companies operating in its 27 member nations to take back and recycle (or otherwise deal with, taking the burden off of local communities) at least 60 percent of their packaging waste, including that used for food items. But no such "producer pays" laws, which provide incentive for manufacturers to cut back on waste to begin with, exist in the United States or Canada. As such, it falls to consumers to patronize stores and manufacturers that minimize packaging.

One way to take a bite out of packaging is to buy as much in bulk as your family can keep up with. It may take longer to get through that gigantic box of cereal you got at Costco, but think of all the cardboard and plastic your bulk purchase saved over buying several small boxes. Similarly, instead of sending the kids off to school every day with a new juice box in the lunch bag, how about a safe metal

or plastic reusable, washable container that you can refill each morning from the gallon jug you keep in the fridge?

Another way to forego packaging is to reduce time spent in large supermarkets, where wasteful product packaging rules. Most natural foods stores have large bulk-buying sections so you can haul away in large paper or plastic bags the equivalent of many containers of beans, pastas, rice or other staples. Frequenting local farmers' markets—armed with your reusable shopping tote, of course—is another way to keep food packaging out of your home. The website Local Harvest offers a free searchable database of farms across the U.S. that run Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) programs and participate in farmers' markets.

It's worth noting that we tend to toss way too much food packaging where a quick rinse would make the same cans, jars and jugs useful storage containers or quality recycling fodder. Soup cans, for example, can easily be recycled into new steel and are collected universally by municipal recycling programs. And while you're buying soup, opt for the family size cans and save leftovers instead of buying single-serving containers. Even when packaging material is recyclable, there's no reason to waste it, as even recycling uses resources and costs money.

Beyond shopping and sorting more responsibly, individuals also

have the power of their voices to pressure food makers to cut back on packaging. You can also try to persuade your elected officials to look into the feasibility of enacting "producer pays" laws in your community, city or state. And you can talk to co-workers, friends,

relatives and others about the importance of buying in bulk and reducing waste.

Got an environmental question? Send it to EarthTalk, c/o E/The Environmental Magazine, P.O. Box 5098, Westport, CT 06881; submit your question at: www.emagazine.com/earthtalk.html, or e-mail us at: earthtalk@emagazine.com.

April Classes at Garden for the Environment

Garden for the Environment (GFE) will offer the following classes in April on Saturdays at the half-acre organic demonstration garden in San Francisco on 7th Avenue at Lawton Street. To pre-register, call (415) 731-5627 or info@gardenfortheenvironment.org.

*Apr. 5: *Urban Composting* from 10 a.m. to 12 noon. Jump-start your spring garden with some home-made compost! Aside from giving veggies and flowers a healthy start, composting encourages beneficial organisms in the soil and can help break the life cycle of plant pests and disease. This fun, hands-on class teaches methods for backyard and worm composting.

*Apr. 12: *Hardscaping: How to Conserve Water in Your Landscape* from 10 a.m. to 12 noon. Join GFE and Building Resources for this workshop on techniques for reducing the footprint of your lawn while learning to build creative, funky, and beautiful garden pathways, beds and containers using all recycled materials.

*Apr. 19: *Sustainable Landscaping Design* from 10 a.m. to 12 noon. Learn the basics of sustainable, resource efficient garden design, from coordinating plant colors and

layout to creating theme gardens. Learn about drought tolerant plants and lawn alternatives while exploring ways you can enhance an existing landscape or plan for a new one.

Events This Month at Valley Branch Library

Following are events in April at the Visitation Valley Branch Library, 45 Leland Ave.:

*Apr. 1, 8, 15, 22 and 29, Tuesday: *Mother Goose on the Loose* with stories songs and rhythms for babies and toddlers at 11:30 a.m.

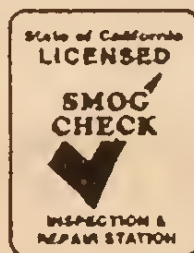
*Apr. 9, Wednesday: *Cool Tunes for Kids* for ages 3-5. Eric Herman's songs are at once ingeniously witty, indelibly memorable and incredibly fun at 10:30 a.m.

*Apr. 26, Saturday: *What's in Your Stars?* from 3 to 4 p.m. What does the future have in store for you? Teens, ages 13-18 are invited to munch on fortune cookies while we learn about palm reading, tarot, astrology, numerology, I-Ching, and dream interpretation. For more information, contact Abby Harwood at aharwood@sfplog.org or (415) 355-2848.

TW AUTOMOTIVE

COMPLETE AUTO REPAIR & MUFFLER

- Foreign & Domestic
- Brake Service
- Engine-Transmission
- Fuel Injection
- Electrical Service
- Insurance Work
- Air Conditioning
- Tune-up
- Muffler & Pipes
- Catalytic Converter
- Performance Dual Exhaust
- Custom Bending



415-585-8281

2500 BAYSHORE BLVD. (at Visitation)

Sluggish 2008 Start for California's New Home Market

SACRAMENTO – The pace of home sales at California new-home communities began 2008 with a sluggish pace, the California Building Industry Association reported today, prompting CBIA to reiterate its call for the state Legislature to quickly take action to assist homebuilding, one of the state's leading industries.

The monthly CBIA/Hanley Wood Market Intelligence (HWMi) New Home Sales and Pricing Report showed that new home sales in January were over 62 percent below January 2007. While a staggering percentage decline, the drop is slightly less severe than the year-over-year decline of nearly 67 percent in December.

During January, 2,679 homes and condominiums were sold in the subdivisions tracked by Costa Mesa-based HWMi, compared to 7,109 in January 2007. Sales of single-family homes dropped by 61 percent, while sales of townhomes and "plexes" – duplexes, triplexes, etc. – were down 71 percent and sales of condominiums were down 58 percent.

Compared with the same period last year, the median base price of homes sold dropped by 13 percent.

Non-seasonally adjusted total new-home sales were 29 percent higher than levels seen in December, although it is not unusual for January to show a much faster pace of sales activity than December. Median base sales prices statewide were 0.2 percent lower than in December.

Jonathan Dienhart, Director of Published Research for HWMi, notes the housing market had a rough winter.

"The winter of 2007-2008 could wind up being the darkest hour for this housing market," Dienhart said. "While it is still too early to declare the bottom has been reached, if sales can start to stabilize in the coming months thanks to higher conforming loan limits and low mortgage rates, it may become evident the worst is finally over."

But Dienhart also cautioned about broader economic issues on the horizon.

"With a weakening economy dragging down the nation this year, it will be especially difficult for the

housing market to stage any kind of recovery. The best we can hope for are some signs of stabilization instead of more declines," he said.

Robert Rivinius, CBIA's President and CEO, said the Legislature should quickly pass three bills designed to help homebuilders survive the sharp downturn in the housing market.

"First, we would ask lawmakers to pass SB 1185, which would give builders an additional two years to build on home sites approved by local officials," Rivinius said. "Normally, these subdivision maps require homes to be completed within two or three years, which in many cases will not occur given the housing downturn."

"SB 1185 is urgently needed and has been put on a fast track in the Legislature, designed to get it enacted and in place as soon as possible. Failure to act means thousands of entitlements will expire, forcing builders to unnecessarily go through a time-consuming and expensive process to get new entitlements approved and delaying a long-awaited industry recovery. Similar legislation was passed in the mid-1990s and helped produce a seamless and uninterrupted recovery."

He said lawmakers should also approve AB 2604, which would allow builders to pay local impact fees when a home is sold instead of when the building permit is obtained.

Study Looks at High Cost of Traffic Deaths

When American motorists talk about transportation problems, congestion is generally their main complaint, but a new study from AAA finds the staggering cost of traffic fatalities is more than double the cost of congestion.

"Nearly 43,000 people die on the nation's roadways each year. That's nearly five people each hour," said Sean Comey, spokesperson for AAA of Northern California. "Yet the annual tally of motor vehicle-related fatalities barely registers a blip in most people's minds. It's time for motor vehicle crashes to be viewed as the public health threat they are. If there were two jumbo jets crashing every week, the government would ground all planes until we fixed the problem. Yet we've come to accept this sort of death toll with car crashes."

The first-of-its-kind study found that the national cost of crashes is \$164 billion a year, nearly two-and-a-half times greater than the \$67 billion price tag for congestion. Costs measured include medical, emergency and police services, property damage, lost productivity and quality of life.

AAA's study examined costs in most major metropolitan areas throughout the United States. To-

tal crash costs correspond to the size of a metropolitan area. Larger cities have more traffic and a greater likelihood of crashes, hence, increased total costs simply due to a multiplier effect. However, on a per person basis, smaller cities generally have higher costs. Among the nation's very large metropolitan areas, the San Francisco-Oakland area actually had the lowest total crash costs, at about \$2.7 million or \$658 per person. Among large metro areas, crashes in the Sacramento area cost about \$2.1 million, or \$1,040 per person. In San Jose, crashes cost about \$1.1 million per year, or \$641 per person. Crash costs in Fresno, a medium metro area, run about \$988,000, or \$1,126 per person.

Since these fees often total \$50,000 or more per house - \$100,000 per home in a growing number of communities - the bill would significantly help builders avoid a cash squeeze.

The third measure is AJR 45, a joint resolution that calls on Congress and the President to permanently increase the federal conforming loan limits and allow mortgages of up to \$729,000 to be purchased by Freddie Mac and Fannie Mae, the federally backed lending giants created to ensure a reliable source of credit for homebuyers.

Finally, Rivinius said that this year more than ever, lawmakers should do no harm.

"Every year, lawmakers and regulators propose new requirements that drive up the cost of housing, helping to make California housing the most expensive and unaffordable in the nation. This year these burdens must also be measured in terms of their impact on a struggling homebuilding industry and their consequences on the health of the state's economy. We strongly encourage lawmakers and policy-makers to take no actions that further burden housing and the homebuilding industry. Indeed, with the housing downturn a major factor in the state's current budget crisis, lawmakers should be working to help housing rebound quickly and restore the state's economic health."

Book Review

Century Old Italian Culinary Secrets Revealed

For more than 100 years, the secrets of Bob Pochini and his Genovese family's Northern Italian/North Beach San Francisco cuisine have remained closely guarded. However, when Bob was diagnosed with inoperable cancer, he gave his wife Judy permission to reveal the Pochini family culinary secrets and his updated cuisine in a cookbook.

Not your traditional cookbook, *The Frittata Affair: Adventures in Four-Star Dining at Home* (AuthorHouse; \$17.99), discloses the secrets of the Pochini family's signature cuisine within a memoir that captures the underlying thread of gentle and loving collaboration between trained chef Bob and sous chef Judy as they present their many festive dinners.

Three generations of Pochinis still live in Northern California, in or near the San Francisco Bay Area, where the first Pochinis settled after arriving from Genoa, Italy. Judy and Bob met in central Contra Costa County, part of the East Bay of San Francisco, and lived there until Bob passed away in 1995. Judy captures the special flavor of dining and entertaining in the gourmet-rich Bay Area culture in her stories throughout the book.

The Frittata Affair helps readers achieve elegance in dining at home without hours of kitchen toil by providing an inside look into the methods used by an Italian-American family with a rich history in the food business. The anecdotes and easy-to-understand recipes reveal some of the mysteries of Northern Italian cuisine and describes how Northern Italian cuisine differs from that of Southern Italy.

Readers will find 19 suggested menus from Judy's diary of experiences as she joined forces with Bob in their kitchen to serve innovative cuisine to family and friends. Each menu lists what they served for a

variety of events from baby showers to holiday dinners to V.I.P. entertaining to family barbecues. An equipment list tells readers how to set up an "Italian kitchen" from scratch, or what is needed to fill in the blanks for those cooks already equipped with most of the necessary supplies.

The Frittata Affair is a must-read for anyone who enjoys good food and wants to learn more about how to bring it to his or her own table. For the beginning cook, the book provides plenty of simple, easy-to-follow recipes with a gourmet appeal. However, the advanced cook will appreciate the step-by-step instructions for preparing such intricate dishes as homemade ravioli and stuffed veal pocket. To save readers time and money, the book also includes tips on where to find special ingredients included in the recipes.

Judy Pochini spent a number of years editing trade publications for *Sunset Magazine*, noted for its reporting on historical and innovative West Coast dining and cuisine. She earned her master's in journalism from University of California, Berkeley, and her bachelor's in business economics from University of California, Santa Barbara. She and Bob spent many years in the San Francisco Bay area, but after Bob passed away Judy returned "home" to Santa Barbara. She also continues to enjoy winters in La Quinta, Calif.

For more information, including additional stories and recipes, please visit www.frittataaffair.com.

Historic Sonoma Photos

The climate was good, the soil was good, and the people who came to this fertile area on the Pacific Coast of America knew they had found a special place. Native American tribes came first, Europeans and their American descendants followed. With statehood and the Gold Rush, the population swelled.

The river led to Petaluma and brought pioneers who settled in the growing cities Sebastopol, Santa Rosa, Sonoma, Healdsburg, Cloverdale, Windsor, and many smaller hamlets.

Resilient pioneers rebuilt after the 1906 earthquake and took up the challenges of Prohibition, the Depression, and war. Construction of the Golden Gate Bridge opened the way for expansion.

Historic Photos of Sonoma County by Lee Torliatt (Turner Publishing, \$39.95) uses striking illustrations to follow life, government, education, and events in this special place. Rare scenes captured in historic, black-and-white photographs preserve the essence of Sonoma County life from the 1860s to the 1960s.

Author Torliatt is a fifth generation Petaluman, born on Groundhog Day, 1933. After attending San Francisco State and the University of California, Berkeley, he went on to a career in teaching and journalism.

Torliatt taught Social Science and English at Santa Rosa and Piner High Schools in Santa Rosa before retiring in 1993. He was an editor and writer at the Santa Rosa Press-Democrat, Petaluma Argus-Courier, San Francisco Chronicle, and Pacific Stars and Stripes in Tokyo.

Cooking Corner

Smart Ground Chili

2 12-ounce packages Lightlife Smart Ground; 1 cup onion, chopped; 1 cup green pepper, chopped; 1 cup celery, sliced; 2 15-ounce cans kidney beans; 1 15-ounce can corn (kernels, not creamed); 2 16-ounce cans Hunt's tomatoes, cut up; 2 6-ounce cans Hunt's tomato paste; 2 cloves garlic, minced; 1-1/2 tablespoons chili powder; 1-1/2 tablespoons ground cumin; 3 teaspoons salt.

Saute the onion, green pepper and celery in a small amount of oil until cooked through and softened.

Add the remainder of the ingredients and simmer 1-1/2 hours. **NAPS**

Crossword Puzzle Solution

H	I	E		C	R	C		O	V	O	
P	U	N	A		H	E	R		R	I	D
E	F	F			I	V	E		S	T	E
U	F	O		O	C	E	A	N		E	R
			L	O	A				T	O	L
P	A	E	A	N		D	E	V	E	L	O
A	N	A	T		F	A	D		A	U	B
H	E	S	H	V	A	N		O	S	S	E
			T	E	A	T		R	H	E	
S	S		S	E	D	A	N		W	H	O
C	A	I	N		F	I	N	E	S	O	A
I	G	N	I		U	L	E		H	O	P
A	D	E		L	I	E			E	L	I

Church of the Visitacion

Roman Catholic (1907)

Over a Century in Visitacion Valley

Daily Masses (Mon-Fri) 7 a.m. & 5:30 p.m.

Sunday Masses 8 & 9:30 a.m. (11 a.m. Spanish) 12:30 & 5 p.m.

Saturday Masses 7:30 a.m. & 5 p.m.

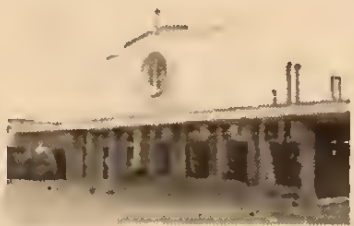
Our Lady of Visitacion School Grades K-8 239-7840

Religious Education: Grades K-8 (Saturday only) 239-6723

Come, Let us worship together!

655 Sunnydale Avenue
San Francisco, CA 94134-2838
(415) 239-5950

Rev. Erick E. Arauz, Administrator Pro Tem
Rev. Thuan V. Hoang, Parochial Vicar



JOHN W. KING SENIOR CENTER

500 Raymond Ave. San Francisco, CA 94134
Phone: 415.239.6233 Fax: 415.239.2262

Nutritional hot lunches served Monday-Friday from 12 to 1 p.m. for only \$1.50.
Seniors and non-seniors welcomed.

The Senior Center has many amenities, including our spacious outdoor courtyard. We offer social activities designed to keep seniors active and information designed to keep them informed.

Paratransit Service

Arts & Crafts

Bingo

Computer Center

Weekly Strength & Tone Classes

Chair Dancing

Yoga

Exercise Center

USDA SUPPLEMENTAL FOOD DISTRIBUTION SITE

Weekly food bags and Monthly food boxes

Child Care Center in Your Neighborhood



Serving the Needs of Children 2 to 5 Years

Breakfast, Lunch and Snacks Served Daily

Potty Training

Quality Teachers with Years of Experience

Applications Are Now Being Accepted!

Come and Hear About the Exciting
Learning Opportunities for Your Child!

1st Place to Start
1252 Sunnydale Ave.
San Francisco
(415) 333-2659

For More Information, Please Contact
Sandra Davis, Executive Director at (415) 333-2659

結合傳統的銷售和現代的科技

羅佩麗和安娜成為你買賣物業的合作伙伴

我們的承諾:

- 你將會接到我們親自回答電話的服務而不是電話留言或他人作答
- 網上查詢將會得到即日答覆
- 會在允許的時間內給你答案
- 介紹有關專業人士如工程師, 會計師, 律師為你提供 15 分鐘的免費諮詢

我們電腦的自動化系統將會自動提供最新房地產資料, 還有太多(不勝枚舉)

羅佩麗是訪客區居民, 她會為你的房屋視如自己的一樣保衛它的價值, 加上安娜

的現代全球化市場推廣技術, 定能帶來最高的市價

佩麗能講流利中文(廣東話、國語、上海話)

安娜能講印尼話

MERGE TRADITIONAL MARKETING SKILLS WITH UP-TO-DATE COMPUTERIZED SYSTEMS

Partner with Justyna "Tina" and Anna for all your real estate needs and you will get:

- *Traditional, warm personal care with either Tina or Anna answering your phone calls directly - not voice mail; not another representative.
- *Answer all your email inquiries within the same day.
- *Get you the answers within the promised approximate time.
- *Provide you with FREE 15-minute consultants by referring to appropriate professionals that you need, such as contractors, accountants, real estate attorneys, etc.
- *Enroll you in their free market update system on the particular housing market of your interest.
- *And more (too long to list)

Justyna is a local resident who lives in Visitacion Valley. She would guard your house value as much as treating it as her own. Together with Anna's updated computerized marketing system, they can get you buyers from around the whole world.

Justyna speaks fluent Chinese (Cantonese, Mandarin and Shanghaiese). Anna speaks fluent Indonesian.

Anna Gandamana
Realtor
Cell: 415-412-9141
E: anna@annasf.com
www.annasf.com



Justyna To "Tina"
Realtor
Cell: 415-830-1235
E: justynato@sbcglobal.net
www.justynato.com

100%
Listing
Sold
Rate



**COLDWELL
BANKER**
PENINSULA

Visitation Valley Police Report

Police Cases

*On Feb. 25 at 4:56 p.m. at Raymond Avenue and Sawyer Street, officers saw a U-Haul truck being driven recklessly and followed it. The driver pulled to the curb and ran away. The officers checked the truck's registration and found that it had been reported stolen. They waited until the driver returned to the truck and arrested him after a short foot chase. The driver, a 21 year-old Hunters Point man, was booked at Ingleside Station.

*On Feb. 26 at 10:11 p.m. at Arleta and San Bruno avenues, an officer conducted a surveillance for a known robbery suspect (occurred Feb. 25). He saw the man and asked for assistance. A police sergeant and posse arrested the man nearby. The perpetrator, a 34 year-old San Francisco man, was charged with robbery, vehicle tampering (another case), and violation of parole.

*On Feb. 27 at 9:44 a.m. on the 1300 block of Brussels Street, a Portola District woman arrived home to find another woman rummaging through the first woman's roommate's car. The car burglar fled the scene. An officer went to Brussels Street and broadcast a description of the perpetrator. Officers found the burglar nearby. The witness identified the suspect, a 25 year-old Bayview woman, and stolen property was recovered. The burglar was booked at Ingleside Station.

*On Mar. 6 at 1:30 a.m., officers responded to 1286 Bowdoin regarding a fire. The officers arrived a few moments after the SFFD had put out the fire. The homeowner advised police that she had come home to find that her mail box had been set on fire. When asked, the homeowner stated that she did not know who may have done this. The officers searched the area for the suspects to no avail.

*On Mar. 7 at 8 p.m. on the 200 block of Hahn Street, an officer stopped an 18 year-old Visitation Valley man for drinking a beer in a public place. The man was wanted in San Mateo County on a felony theft warrant. He was arrested and booked at Ingleside Station. Also at 8 p.m. at San Bruno Avenue and Tucker Street, a 55 year-old Portola District woman was robbed of her purse and its contents. She fell during the attack and was treated at San Francisco General Hospital.

*On Mar. 8 at 9:20 p.m. on the 1100 block of Sunnydale Avenue, an officer responded on a call of shots fired

and found a 24 year-old Long Beach man with a bullet wound in his left leg. No suspects were found. The victim was treated at San Francisco General Hospital.

*On Mar. 9 at 1:40 p.m. on the 100 block of Britton St., officers stopped four juveniles who were seen handling a gun. The area was searched and a handgun was found hidden beneath a parked car nearby. The four youths were identified and released. The gun was turned over to SFPD's CSI Unit.

*On Mar. 10 at 1:20 p.m. 200 block of Hahn Street, a 41 year-old OMI District resident had her purse stolen from her on a Muni bus. At 5 p.m. on the first block of Santos Street an officer attempted to speak to a woman who had assaulted a passerby. The woman injured the officer when she closed her apartment's door on his hand. The woman left her apartment and Sergeant Kim found her nearby. She was arrested after a struggle. The 37 year-old Visitation Valley woman was booked into County Jail on multiple charges.

*On Mar. 11 at 7 a.m. on the 2200 block of Geneva Avenue, an officer stopped a motorist for a mechanical violation. The 30 year-old driver, a Visitation Valley man, was wanted in San Mateo County on a theft warrant. The man was arrested and his car was impounded for a drivers license violation. At 1:08 p.m. on the 100 block of Blythdale Avenue, a police sergeant and posse responded on the call of shots fired and found a man down. A 22 year-old Daly City resident, later identified as Jeffery Vaovasa, had been shot multiple times and was declared dead at the scene at 130 Blythdale Ave. A police inspector of the Homicide Detail took over the case.

*On Mar. 12 at 10:30 a.m. on the 100 block of Britton Street, a resident found a burglar halfway through a bedroom window. The perpetrator fled when she confronted him. At 8:35 p.m. on the 200 block of Velasco Avenue, a Visitation Valley man was robbed at gunpoint as he left his business. Two suspects took his wallet and its contents.

*On Mar. 13 at 11:50 a.m. at Wilde Avenue and Delta Street, a 62 year-old Visitation Valley woman had her belongings taken in a strong arm robbery. At 12:20 p.m. along the first block of Blythdale Avenue, officers learned of a stolen vehicle being operated in the Visitation Valley. They found the car parked in a public housing parking lot. They waited until the car left the lot and stopped it nearby. The driver, an 18 year-old Visitation Valley woman, was arrested for stealing the car. Her passenger, also an 18 year-old Visitation Valley woman, was arrested for possessing counterfeit money. Another passenger, a 17 year-old OMI District male, was charged with possessing drugs for sale. The driver was booked at Ingleside Station. The first passenger was booked at the station after being questioned by Secret Service agents. The juvenile was delivered into the custody of a probation officer. At 11:10 p.m., officers responded to 2698 San Bruno Avenue regarding a robbery. The victim told officers that he was on Wayland and Brussels when two unknown subjects approached him from behind, pulled out a gun and pointed it at his head and told the victim to "break yourself" which is street terminology for being robbed. The suspects then ran down the street and jumped into a black Toyota Camry. The victim was not hurt during the incident. Officers searched the area to no avail.

*On Mar. 14 at 7:10 a.m. on the 100 block of Ward Street, a 24 year-old Portola District woman was mugged as she walked to a bus stop. The robber made off with her purse and its contents. At 9:30 a.m. on the 900 block of Somerset Street, a 48 year-old Portola District woman was walking on Somerset Street when a green Honda Civic approached her. Its passenger alighted, pointed a gun, and demanded her purse. She resisted and the suspect struck her in the head with the gun. He fled with the purse.

*On Mar. 15 at 1:41 a.m., officers responded to 350 University Street regarding a motor home on fire. Members of the SFFD advised officers that the fire was a possible arson. Officers attempted to contact the registered owner of the motor home to no avail. The arson unit took over the investigation. At 3:30 a.m. on the first block of Brookdale Avenue, a 24 year-old Visitation Valley woman was set upon by numerous suspects. They beat her for unknown reasons. She was taken to San Francisco General Hospital for treatment. At 8:10 a.m. at Bayshore Boulevard and Arleta Avenue, an officer saw a known sex offender who was wanted on a felony warrant for failing to register per the law. The 48 year-old Bernal Heights man was arrested and booked at Ingleside Station. Also at 8:10 p.m., officers responded to Somerset and Burrows streets regarding a robbery. The victim told officers that he was robbed at gunpoint while walking on Burrows. The suspect took an iPod and a wallet full of money and then fled on foot on Burrows. Officers in the area searched and detained several suspects to no avail. The victim was not hurt during the incident. At 9:08 p.m. at Delta and Wilde streets, a 22 year-old Portola District man was robbed of his belongings by three suspects. He fought with the men but they overpowered him. At 9:30 p.m. on the 100 block of Brookdale Avenue, a 51 year-old Visitation Valley man argued with his 36 year-old girlfriend. She followed him to his home and tried to stab him with a kitchen knife. The woman was gone upon the officers' arrival. At 10:15 p.m. along the 500 block of Argonaut Avenue, a 40 year-old

Visitation Valley man was surrounded by four suspects as he stood outside his home. They demanded his cell phone and he surrendered it. *On Mar. 16 at 3 a.m. on the 200 block of Hahn Street, a 33 year-old Visitation Valley woman and her companion were forced out of the first woman's car at gunpoint. Two masked gunman drove off in her vehicle. It was recovered two blocks away. At 7:30 a.m. on San Bruno and Wilde avenues, a 43 year-old Portola District woman was robbed of her belongings as she waited for a bus. A search for the suspect included CHP air support. The robber got away. At 7:46 p.m., officers responded to a house fire at 204 Girard Street. SFFD provided officers with information regarding numerous marijuana plants that were located inside the house. Two residents stated to officers that they had medical marijuana cards and doctors notes for the plants. The owner of the property was contacted and informed of the major fire damage to his house. SFPD's narcotics division responded and took over the investigation.

*On Mar. 17 at 2:30 p.m. at Wilde Avenue and Brussels Street, a 15 year-old Portola District male was robbed of his iPod and cell phone. At 10:25 p.m. at Mansell Street and Visitation Avenue, officers stopped a motorist for speeding. A search of one of the car's occupants revealed a loaded handgun. The passenger, an 18 year-old Visitation Valley man, was charged with possessing a loaded handgun.

*On Mar. 17 at 5 p.m. an officer responded to the 800 block of Mansell Street regarding a car that had been broken into. The victim told officers that she locked her car when she parked it on the street. She came back to her vehicle and found the doors open and items missing. Officers did not locate any suspects.

*On Mar. 19 at 8:50 p.m. on the first block of Blythdale Avenue officers were sent to an apartment on the call of a fight. The dispatcher advised

the officers that a domestic violence case had occurred earlier in the day in the same apartment. The officers were physically assaulted when they entered the apartment and they called for back up. The suspect in the domestic violence case was arrested, as was his two brothers, sister and mother.

*On Mar. 19 at 8:51 p.m., members of Bayview's plain clothes team were at Bacon and Cambridge streets when they observed a vehicle with a broken driver side taillight and the smell of burnt marijuana coming from the vehicle. Officers pulled over and approached the vehicle on the 800 block of Colby Street. As the driver opened the window, a cloud of smoke came out of the car. Officers again smelled the odor of burnt marijuana. Officers then noticed several bags of suspected marijuana in the car. The car was searched and officers located more marijuana and a black revolver under the drivers seat. The driver was arrested and booked.

*On Mar. 20 at about 9:45 p.m. two armed robberies occurred on the street at Harkness Avenue and Goettingen Street. The suspect in the first robbery was described as a clean shaven Asian male, 17 to 18 years old, standing 5'10" tall, weighing 165 pounds. He was armed with a black revolver and was wearing a black beanie, black sweater and dark grey sweat pants. A cell phone was taken in the robbery from a 19 year-old Portola District resident. The suspect in the second robbery was described as an Asian male, 18 to 25 years-old, standing 5'7" tall, weighing 130 pounds, with short black hair. He was armed with a black automatic handgun and was wearing a black hooded sweat shirt and black pants. Cash was taken in the robbery from a 30 year-old Portola District resident. The suspect in the second robbery was seen getting into a green Chevrolet Monte Carlo sedan. The car's driver was described as an Asian male.

See Page 9

Grapevine Classified

VVCC BOARD MEETINGS: Visitation Valley Community Center (VVCC) regular monthly Board meetings, held the 4th Thursday of each month at 6 p.m., except December and May, are open to the public. Board members are selected by the members of the community center with dues currently paid, at the Annual Membership meeting held the 3rd Saturday in May each year. Any vacancies that occur on the Board due to uncompleted 3-year terms of membership are filled by appointment of the remaining Board members. At least 75% of our Board members must reside in Visitation Valley. Persons interested in Board membership are encouraged to send a letter of interest to: Board of Directors Development Committee, Visitation Valley Community Center, 50 Raymond Avenue, San Francisco, CA 94134. Please let the Board know what you could contribute that will enhance and improve our organization for better service to our community. You will be contacted and your letter will be submitted to the Board for consideration at either the next Annual election or of any available open positions that might occur within the coming year.

VOLUNTEERS WANTED for VVCC After School Program to tutor children ages 5-14 at one of our 11 sites in the Visitation Valley area. Interested persons contact Dee Smith, VVCC After School coordinator, (415) 585-2059.

GRAPEVINE DISPLAY ADVERTISING: new limited time rates: Full Page: \$60; 1/2 Page: \$33.75; 1/4 Page: \$18.75; 1/8 Page: \$10; 1/12 Page: \$8; 1/16 Page: \$6. Generous discount for three or more insertions. Call (415) 467-9300 for more details. **Classified:** 20 words for \$1. Extra line 50 cents. Ad and payment should be received by 15th of prior month at Visitation Valley Grapevine, 50 Raymond Ave., San Francisco, CA 94134

Visitation Valley Community Center Senior Program

Funded by

S.F. Department of Aging & Adult Services

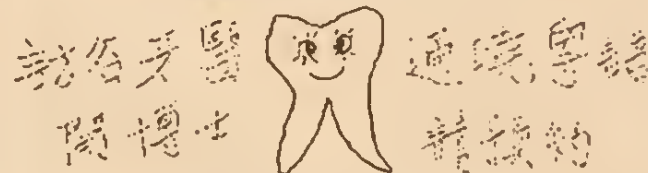
Open 365 Days a Year

Lunch Served Every Day

66 Raymond Avenue 467-4499

VISITACION VALLEY DENTAL OFFICE

Albert Kuan, D.D.S.



10 Percent Senior Discount

37 Leland Avenue
San Francisco, CA 94134Monday thru Friday: 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Closed on ThursdayPhone 239-5500
for an appointment
Cantonese Spoken

ST. JAMES PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

240 Leland Ave., San Francisco, CA 94134
The Rev. Dr. Jerry O. Resus, MinisterChurch School Classes: 9:15 a.m.
Sunday Worship Service: 10:30 a.m.
Wednesday Bible Study: 11:00 a.m.
Friday Bible Fellowship: 7:30 p.m.
Saturday Choir Rehearsal: 10:00 a.m.You are cordially welcome to join us for study, worship,
fellowship and service. We seek to teach the Bible and to
lift up Jesus Christ so He can draw all persons to Himself.

Come to Church This Week

Police Summaries

*Feb. 15: Dartmouth St. near Olmstead St., stolen truck
 *Feb. 15: San Bruno Ave and Felton St., battery.
 *Feb. 15: Schwenn St. and Towerside Ave., grand theft from locked auto.
 *Feb. 15: San Bruno Ave. and Dwight St., attempted homicide with gun.
 *Feb. 15: Sunnydale Ave. and Hahn St., malicious mischief, breaking windows
 *Feb. 15: Bacon St. near Hamilton St., battery
 *Feb. 15: Blythdale and Brookdale Aves., petty theft of property.
 *Feb. 15: University St. near Felton St., attempted theft from locked vehicle
 *Feb. 15: Bacon St. near Hamilton St., battery
 *Feb. 16: Bameveld Ave. near Rickard St., attempted homicide with gun.
 *Feb. 16: Girard St. near Ordway St., battery
 *Feb. 16: Santos St. and Blythdale Ave., stolen truck.
 *Feb. 16: 1800 block of Sunnydale Ave., malicious mischief, vandalism of vehicles
 *Feb. 16: Girard St. near Hamilton St., stolen motorcycle
 *Feb. 16: University St. near Felton St., petty theft from locked auto.
 *Feb. 17: San Bruno Ave. near Silliman St., aggravated assault with bodily force.
 *Feb. 17: Sweeny St. near Bowdoin St., malicious mischief, vandalism of vehicles
 *Feb. 18: Santos St. and Velasco Ave., stolen automobile.
 *Feb. 18: San Bruno Ave. at Campbell St., battery
 *Feb. 18: Tunnel and Blanken Aves., malicious mischief, graffiti.
 *Feb. 18: San Bruno Ave. and Bacon St., possession of marijuana
 *Feb. 18: Silliman and Hamilton Sts., grand theft from locked auto.
 *Feb. 18: Karen Ct. near Hamilton St., grand theft of property
 *Feb. 19: San Bruno Ave and Felton St., grand theft from locked auto
 *Feb. 19: Girard St. near Bacon St., stolen automobile.
 *Feb. 20: San Bruno Ave. and Dwight St., grand theft pickpocket.
 *Feb. 21: Goettingen St. between Ordway and Mansell Sts., malicious mischief, vandalism.
 *Feb. 21: Tocaloma Ave. near Lathrop Ave., grand theft from locked auto
 *Feb. 21: Tocaloma Ave. near Lathrop Ave., malicious mischief, vandalism of vehicles.
 *Feb. 21: Arleta Ave. and Rutland St., malicious mischief, vandalism of vehicles
 *Feb. 22: 1800 block of Sunnydale Ave., residential burglary, occurred between 6 and 6:15 a.m.
 *Feb. 22: 100 block of Loehr St., residential burglary, occurred between 11 and 11:15 a.m.
 *Feb. 22: 100 block of Blythdale Ave., 23 year-old Visitacion Valley man arrested for felony assault and parole violation in domestic violence case
 *Feb. 22: Santos St. and Blythdale Ave., burglary, hot prowl, attempted forcible entry
 *Feb. 22: 1800 block of Sunnydale Ave., burglary, hot prowl, attempted forcible entry
 *Feb. 22: Felton St. near Amherst St., burglary of apartment house., unlawful entry
 *Feb. 22: 100 block of Loehr St., burglary, hot prowl, forcible entry
 *Feb. 23: 1700 block of Sunnydale Ave., 16 year-old Visitacion Valley juvenile arrested for Juvenile Court warrant
 *Feb. 23: 4:50 p.m., Silver Ave. and Girard St., 27 year-old San Bruno man arrested for driving under the influence of drugs and for possessing narcotics (methamphetamine)
 *Feb. 23: Unit block of Parque Dr., battery
 *Feb. 23: Dwight and Goettingen Sts., stolen truck.
 *Feb. 23: University and Dwight Sts., grand theft from locked auto.
 *Feb. 23: Silver Ave. and Princeton St., possession of cocaine.
 *Feb. 23: Brussels St. near Felton St., malicious mischief, graffiti.
 *Feb. 24: 200 block of Santos Ave., 44 year-old Visitacion Valley man arrested for two felonies in domestic violence case
 *Feb. 24: Argonaut and Garrison Aves., 17 year-old Visitacion Valley juvenile arrested on Juvenile Court warrant
 *Feb. 24: Bowdoin St. near Felton St., robbery on street with gun.
 *Feb. 24: Silliman and Hamilton Sts., battery
 *Feb. 24: 1700 block of Sunnydale Ave., malicious mischief, vandalism.
 *Feb. 24: Teddy Ave. near Delta St., grand theft from locked auto.
 *Feb. 25: 12:36 a.m., 2200 block of Bayshore Blvd., counterfeit case: suspect passed a fake \$100 bill.
 *Feb. 25: 12 noon, Cielito Dr. and Geneva Ave., automobile burglary: GPS unit taken
 *Feb. 25: 9 p.m., Raymond Ave. and Alpha St., strongarm robbery
 *Feb. 25: Raymond Ave. and Delta St., robbery, bodily force.
 *Feb. 25: Santos St. near Geneva Ave., stolen automobile
 *Feb. 25: Unit block of Cielito Dr., malicious mischief, vandalism of vehicles.
 *Feb. 26: 1800 block of Sunnydale Ave., 24 year-old Visitacion Valley woman cited for driving on a suspended license and had her vehicle impounded
 *Feb. 26: Sweeny and Merrill Sts., grand theft from locked auto
 *Feb. 27: 5300 block of Diamond Heights Blvd., 34 year-old Visitacion Valley man arrested and booked on numerous felony charges in a domestic violence case.
 *Feb. 27: 1600 block of Sunnydale Ave., 26 year-old pizza delivery man was robbed at gunpoint.
 *Feb. 28: Silver Ave. and Hamilton St., robbery on street, strongarm.
 *Feb. 28: Silver Ave. and Princeton St., robbery on street, strongarm.
 *Feb. 28: Girard and Felton Sts., robbery on street,

strongarm.
 *Feb. 28: Brussels St. and Campbell Ave., attempted theft from locked vehicle.
 *Feb. 28: Brussels St. and Campbell Ave., petty theft.
 *Feb. 28: Sparta and Ward Sts., stolen automobile.
 *Feb. 28: Silliman and Colby Sts., aggravated assault with bodily force.
 *Feb. 28: Cambridge St. near Wayland St., grand theft from locked auto.
 *Mar. 1: Leland Ave. and Alpha St., stolen automobile.
 *Mar. 1: Schwenn and Garrison Aves., burglary of apartment house, unlawful entry
 *Mar. 2: Velasco Ave. near Castillo St., stolen truck.
 *Mar. 2: Mansell and Holyoke Sts., arson of vehicle.
 *Mar. 2: Mansell and Holyoke Sts., arson of vehicle.
 *Mar. 2: Blythdale Ave. near Hahn St., grand theft from building
 *Mar. 2: Unit block of Blythdale Ave., grand theft from building
 *Mar. 2: Santos St. near Brookdale Ave., malicious mischief, breaking windows
 *Mar. 2: Bayshore Blvd. and Hester Ave., possession of marijuana
 *Mar. 2: Bayshore Blvd. and Hester Ave., possession of heroin.
 *Mar. 2: Alder St. near Ankeny St., battery
 *Mar. 3: University and Woolsey Sts., possession of marijuana.
 *Mar. 4: Gaven St. near Merrill St., stolen automobile.
 *Mar. 4: San Bruno Ave. and Rickard St., possession of marijuana for sales
 *Mar. 4: San Bruno Ave. and Rickard St., transportation of marijuana.
 *Mar. 4: Gaven St. near Merrill St., stolen automobile.
 *Mar. 5: Mansell and Holyoke Sts., possession of marijuana
 *Mar. 5: Mansell and Somerset Sts., possession of marijuana
 *Mar. 5: Burrows and Hamilton Sts., malicious mischief, vandalism of vehicles.
 *Mar. 6: Wilde Ave. near Rutland St., burglary of residence, unlawful entry
 *Mar. 6: Wilde Ave. near Rutland St., petty theft from locked auto
 *Mar. 6: Mansell and Bowdoin Sts., arson
 *Mar. 6: Hale and Bowdoin Sts., grand theft from locked auto.
 *Mar. 6: Wayland St. near Yale St., stolen automobile.
 *Mar. 6: San Bruno Ave. and Felton St., petty theft shoplifting
 *Mar. 6: San Bruno and Silver Aves., battery
 *Mar. 8: 10 p.m., 237 Dwight St., grand theft from locked auto.
 *Mar. 8: 1800 block of Sunnydale Ave., aggravated assault with gun.
 *Mar. 8: Bayshore Blvd. and Blanken Ave., stolen automobile.
 *Mar. 8: Yale St. near Felton St., petty theft from locked auto.
 *Mar. 8: San Bruno and Silver Aves., aggravated assault with deadly weapon.
 *Mar. 8: Bameveld Ave. and Hale St., malicious mischief, vandalism of vehicles.
 *Mar. 8: Goettingen and Mansell Sts., malicious mischief, vandalism
 *Mar. 8: Goettingen St. between Dwight and

Olmstead Sts., arson of vehicle.
 *Mar. 8: San Bruno Ave. and Wayland St., battery.
 *Mar. 8: San Bruno Ave. and Bacon St., battery.
 *Mar. 9: 6 a.m., 2554 San Bruno Ave., stolen vehicle.
 *Mar. 9: San Bruno Ave. and Burrows St., stolen automobile.
 *Mar. 10: 7 Holyoke St., stolen automobile.
 *Mar. 10: 2:15 p.m., Unit block of Blythdale Ave., criminal threats, suspect known.
 *Mar. 10: Silver Ave. and Holyoke St., stolen automobile.
 *Mar. 10: Unit block of Blythdale Ave., battery.
 *Mar. 10: Unit block of Brookdale Ave., stolen automobile.
 *Mar. 10: Santos St. near Brookdale Ave., assault on police officer with deadly weapon
 *Mar. 10: Santos St. near Brookdale Ave., battery
 *Mar. 10: Sunnydale Ave. and Hahn St., robbery, bodily force
 *Mar. 11 7:20 p.m., 100 block of Garrison Ave., residential burglary, occurred between 7:50 a.m. and 5:40 p.m.
 *Mar. 11: Camzal St. at Parque Dr., burglary of flat, unlawful entry
 *Mar. 11: Sunnydale Ave. and Hahn St., malicious mischief, breaking windows
 *Mar. 11: 100 block of Hahn St., petty theft from locked auto
 *Mar. 11: Leland Ave. and Sawyer St., malicious mischief, vandalism of vehicles
 *Mar. 11: San Bruno Ave. and Rickard St., transportation of marijuana
 *Mar. 11: San Bruno Ave. and Rickard St., possession of marijuana for sales
 *Mar. 11: Silver Ave. and Merrill St., petty theft with prior.
 *Mar. 12: 100 block of Britton St., burglary, hot prowl, forcible entry
 *Mar. 12: 6:45 p.m., Unit block of Blythdale Ave., residential burglary, occurred between 7 a.m. and 6 p.m.
 *Mar. 12: 8 p.m., Unit block of Camzal Street, residential burglary, occurred between Mar. 11 and 12.
 *Mar. 12: Mansell St. near John F. Shelley Dr., grand theft from locked auto.
 *Mar. 12: Velasco Ave. near Argonaut Ave., robbery on street with gun
 *Mar. 12: Unit block of Blythdale Ave., burglary of residence, forcible entry
 *Mar. 12: San Bruno Ave. and Wayland St., attempted robbery on street with bodily force.
 *Mar. 12: Burrows and Goettingen Sts., petty theft from locked auto
 *Mar. 13: Hamilton St. near Burrows St., malicious mischief, vandalism of vehicles
 *Mar. 13: San Bruno Ave. and Dwight St., stolen automobile.
 *Mar. 13: Wayland and Brussels St., robbery on street with gun
 *Mar. 14: 8 p.m., Parque and Cielito Drvs., a 29 year-old Visitacion Valley man was robbed at gun point.
 *Mar. 14: Hale St. between and Bameveld Ave. and Merrill St., grand theft auto strip
 *Mar. 14: Olmstead St. near Brussels St., aggravated assault with deadly weapon
 *Mar. 14: Somerset St. near Ordway St., attempted robbery on street with gun
Captain Denis O'Leary of Ingleside Station and Captain John Loftus of Bayview Station contributed to this report

City Rebates for Affordable Solar Power

Mayor Gavin Newsom was joined by Assessor-Recorder Phil Ting and solar industry leaders on Mar. 11 to announce the immediate implementation of a solar rebate program that makes installation of solar panels more affordable for residents, businesses and non-profits. It represents the largest municipal solar incentive program in the country.
 "Several months ago, I forwarded to the Board of Supervisors a proposal to create a solar rebate program that homeowners can use to make installing solar on their homes more affordable," said Mayor Newsom. "Despite no action from the Board of Supervisors, I have directed the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission (SFPUC) to begin implementing this program. I am firmly committed to passing an ordinance establishing the rebate program on a long-term basis, either by the Board of Supervisors or the November ballot, if need be."
 Solar implementation for residential homes has proved more challenging than commercial solar use. The average cost of solar installation for a San Francisco home is between \$20,000-25,000. The Solar Incentive Rebate Program can increase the amount of solar in the City from 5 megawatts currently (750 rooftops) to 55 megawatts (15,000 rooftops) in 10 years. The \$3 million that will be used for the solar incentive program in 2008 is expected to produce 1.5 megawatts of private sector solar.
 "The Solar Energy Incentive Program will make San Francisco the solar capital of the United States," said Assessor-Recorder Ting. "De-

veloped by the San Francisco Solar Task Force to be the nation's largest municipal incentive program, it will ensure that solar is a real clean energy alternative for consumers in the city."
 The program gives a simple and direct rebate to local homes, businesses and non-profits that invest in rooftop solar installations. Applicants can only receive one of the following incentive levels:
 "SFPUC renewable energy and energy efficiency funds will be used to provide incentive payments to qualified applicants ranging from \$3,000-6,000 for residential installations and up to \$10,000 for commercial installations.
 "Incentive levels of \$4,000 for solar installations completed by installers with offices in San Francisco will be provided in order to help build a sustainable local solar industry and deliver green jobs to local residents.
 "A \$5,000 incentive level for installations located in Environmental Justice Districts will be provided in order to boost the development of cleaner power sources in communities that have experienced the greatest burden of environmental and social costs of the City's historical power generation.
 In order to keep the City's solar incentive program application process simple, solar property owners who qualify for the state rebate program also qualify for the City's incentive. However, the proposed ordinance also directs the program administrator to establish simple eligibility criteria for all applicants. Currently, of the 195,000 rooftops in San Francisco, only 744 rooftop solar energy systems have been installed."

Joe Leland around the neighborhood

***Uncertain Fate of the 56 Rutland:** The MTA has proposed to eliminate the 56 Rutland. Although the ridership is very low, the line does provide a very important service to seniors and youth in Visitacion Valley. Did they consider the current plans for the residential development of Executive Park/Candlestick Cove? Hundreds of new units of housing with no bus service. You can call the city hotline number 311 to register a complaint if you desire to do so.
***Grassroots Plant Sale:** Goettingen Neighbors Group (GNG) is a grassroots effort to reclaim a parcel of land that has suffered for years from litter, graffiti and vagrant loitering. Many of the neighbors have cared for the area, cleaning trash, painting out graffiti and clearing the overgrowth each year. GNG has made great strides towards a native plant restoration for the hillside at the 700 block of Goettingen Street. The group has become a Parks Partner with S.F. Parks Trust and has applied for the first of several grant opportunities. GNG will be having its first fundraiser, the Grassroots Plant Sale. There will be plants for sale on April 5th from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. as well as refreshments at the corner of Goettingen and Dwight streets. Visit their website, <http://gngcore.blogspot.com> for more information about the project and the overall vision for the hill.
***Super Deals on Leland Avenue:** \$1 ham and cheese sandwich at Luen Fat Chinese Bakery – best \$1 sandwich on Leland; Senior Fast Passes at Shun Lee Market – conveniently located next to the 56 Rutland and 9 San Bruno bus stops; Chiradelli Hot Chocolate at JOE Leland – the best hot chocolate in Vis Valley; Mitchell's Ice Cream at La Loma #2 – world famous on Leland; fresh, hot carmitas on Saturdays at Casa Lopez - tasty "little meats;" home office supplies (paper, envelopes, pens) at 99cent Store – can't beat the price!; new designer library cards at Visitacion Valley Public Library - free until April 30th; Hans Schiller Plaza at The Greenway – open space in the heart of Leland; \$1.30 for three Dim Sum at Happy Family Restaurant – great appetizers; the 28-year-old houseplant at Nails by Jenny; two fresh meat counters at La Loma #2 and Casa Lopez, both on Leland.

Long Valley History Of Smitty's Market

From Page 1

Through familial connections, Mr. Smith was given the chance to purchase Lupo's Market, a fruit and vegetable establishment located on Bayshore Boulevard near the Sunnydale intersection. This was the opportunity Mr. Smith was looking for and he and his family quickly closed the deal.
 In 1956, Lupo's Market became Smitty's Market, a true family run business. Wife Loretta did the bookkeeping. The children worked behind the counter and helped stock the shelves. Uncles and aunts also had regular shifts.
 Not satisfied with selling just produce and vegetables, Mr. Smith tinkered with the market's format. He eliminated several storefront doors and reduced the amount of produce stocked. He added a greater variety of grab-and-go items such as bread, milk and beer. He envisioned a new quick stop establishment and focused on stocking items that would hold a family over until shopping day rolled around.
 This quick stop format was a gamble at the time but proved successful. As related by his son Burt Smith, on busy weekends Smitty's Market would sell 30-40 cases of milk and 20-30 cases of beer. Not bad for a little corner market.
 Smitty's also served as a convenient lunchtime destination for the numerous blue-collar workers of nearby Schlage Lock and the Southern Pacific Rail Yards, which was odd because Mr. Smith would adamantly proclaim that he was not a sandwich shop. Sure,

he would provide the hungry workers with cuts of meats and sliced bread but refused to include condiments. You'd have to take the fixings and do it yourself. Regardless, Smitty's Market would routinely have 30-40 hungry workers spending their lunch hour congregating on the sidewalks.
 Even when Safeway decided to open a supermarket next door, Smitty's was undeterred. Corporate shopping was still no match for his quick stop format. In fact sales actually increased now that Smitty's customers had a convenient parking lot adjacent to his building, graciously provided by Safeway.
 Yet time and change would slowly catch up to Smitty's Market. As is the story of Visitacion Valley, the failed Eichler (Geneva) Towers development altered the direction of the entire community. As The Towers fell into decline, so did the safety of the neighborhood. By 1969, the last year that the Smith family operated the store, Smitty's Market was robbed 12 times. The Smiths decided to retire and sell the business, but held on to the building.
 Over the years, Smitty's Market changed hands several times, but the name remained. After the current operators decided to move on in late 2007, the Smith family quietly decided to sell the building and close Smitty's Market forever.
 Mr. Smith died in 1989 and his wife Loretta died in 2001. Little outward signs of Smitty's Market remain today. The façade has been painted over and the signs removed. Yet the memories linger. As long as the community takes the time to reminisce about the past, Smitty's Market, will forever be a part of Visitacion Valley's history.

New Tiger Cubs at San Francisco Zoo



Three 9-day-old Sumatran tiger cubs waited for their first health exam on Mar. 15 at the San Francisco Zoo. The four-pound male cubs were born at the Zoo, to Leanne, a 230-pound Sumatran tiger. This is the first litter for the five-year-old mom and 10-year-old dad, named George.

Grapevine Puzzler Bigger Hawaiian Towns 2

C V D R T A Y I N A L I E L A W A N A N
I O L A N A M I A W T Y S I P I O P O O
L F A E K U P U P D F G T H O A H J I R
I D K F G M O K U L E I A U I F H D V T
A A F D O E K E E P E P T E P L F A I H
M U V G I V S F D H C A E B U S O F L D
E R L D P F O G H J O I S V H H G D L A
R E D I I N H L G F G A W A I L U A A E
Y E L L A V C R C W E R M Y H E F F G S
P S A D W W A I M A N A L O N S W D E D
R T O X X H C Y U I N R T T B T V I N F
I A L U C E R T I N G O Y E G A L L I V
N T O P V E E F H A Y H U F V T B I A D
C E K A M L S D G K G N J D C E V W T F
E S I K E E K E O U A G H S X S X A N A
V R A I K R G P I L H H F A Z X C N U E
I E W A I A L U A J G H A S C V C U O L
L R F W G F F D P A P A I K O U F A M I
L T Y T F B D H O M E S T E A D S M M A
E S D N A L D I H C R O E R O M T I H W

Leilani
Estates
Lihue
Maui
Makaha
Valley
Maunawili
Mokuleia
Mountain
View
Nanawale

Estates
North
Hilo
Omao
Orchidlands
Estates
Pahala
Paia
Papaikou
Pepeekeo
Poipu

Princeville
Puh
Pupukea
Volcano
Waialua
Waikapu
Waikoioa
Village
Wailea-
Makena
Wailua

Wailua
Homesteads
Waimanalo
Waimanalo
Beach
Wainaku
Waipio
Acres
Wheeler AFB
Whitmore
Village

Historic Proportions

1873

Match clues to answers.

1. U.S. Congress enacts this on Mar. 3, making it illegal to send any "obscene, lewd, or lascivious" books through the mail.
2. Joined with the the Canadian Confederation on July 1.
3. Alexander Mackenzie became second prime minister of this country on Nov. 7.
4. On Mar. 4, he began his second term as U.S. president.
5. Former foreign minister Emilio Cistelar y Ripoli became prime minister of this country on Feb. 12.
6. Canadian Parliament established this on May 23.

As a Matter of Fact

*The smallest horse is the Fallabella, which grows only 30 inches high.

*The custom of decorating engagement and wedding rings with gems began around 1200.

*The smallest bird of prey is the white-fronted falconet, which is the size of a sparrow.

*Mushrooms that have bad taste or are poisonous are often called toadstools.

*The month of April gets its name from the Latin aperire, meaning "to open," as do the flower buds during the month.

*The gender of an adult parakeet can usually be told by the color of the skin just above the beak. In males, it is bluish, and in the females, it is brownish.

*The Bahamas were named for their shallow waters by Spanish explorer Juan Ponce de Leon. He called them *baja mar*, Spanish for "shallow water."

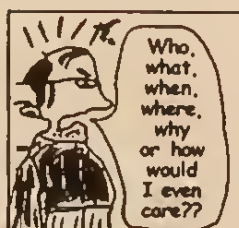
*The grunt is a fish named for the grunting sounds it makes when removed from the water.

Grapevine Five Years Ago

APRIL 2003

*Representatives from several San Francisco city departments joined Supervisor Sophie Maxwell on Mar. 22 in hosting a town hall meeting at the Visitation Valley Community Center.

Sump, the Gump



Poor Rix Almanac

by Rix Quinn

Dear Poor Rix: With all the tools modern science possesses, why can't it solve the problem of aging? – Getting Older

If Poor Rix had the answer, he would still look 19 instead of...uh...well, never mind how old Poor Rix looks.

First, aging is a natural event, like floods, homework, and cold sores. A person without wrinkles is either a person without experience, or one without moisturizer.

Children, like adults, lose their teeth. But unlike adults, they can grow new ones.

Nearly everybody wants to look older until age 30, at which time they want to look younger. Hardly anybody wants to look the same age all the time (except Dorian Gray, and he's not real).

One of Poor Rix's friends is deathly afraid to wrinkle. She's had so much facial enhancement, when she smiles she looks like my gerbil. (But I find that attractive.)

After her last surgery we met for lunch to celebrate. Suddenly, without warning, a piece of her nose dropped right into the po-

Baby Boomers

by Rix Quinn

Joys of the Past

As for my childhood, I was able to be a kid in a world where it was a good place to be. I didn't have a care in the world. We would disappear after breakfast and play with our buddies until time for lunch.

After lunch came a quick nap, and then we were back outside, breathing clean air and playing our games and lying in the grass until time for dinner. No escorts, no watchful eyes, no "play dates" ... just fun on our own terms.

Experience is one of the finer things I have come to appreciate as a Boomer. As an older adult and an AARP card-carrying member of the Baby Boomer generation, I enjoy watching other people coming into their prime, a prime that is full of the same joys and sadness, uncertainty and accomplishments, that I muddled through when I was their age.

I smile and think to myself, "Enjoy the journey."

"When I think of my youth," says one older Boomer, "I think of three things: my earliest memories of elementary school; school plays and dances of the '50s and '60s; and wild clothes of the '60s and '70s."

All About Ice Cream

Let's talk about ice cream drinks from Boomer childhood. Here are three popular mixes:

1. Milk shakes: This was ice cream (you pick the flavor) stirred in a mixer with milk. Chocolate shakes were my favorite, especially ones with whipped cream on top.

2. Malts: This included milk and ice cream, with malt added to enhance the flavor. I'm getting hungry just thinking about it.

3. Floats: This was ice cream (in my case, usually vanilla) mixed with with a carbonated beverage, like a cola or root beer.

School Pictures

The photographer came to our elementary school once a year. Did he visit your school too?

At that time, he took group photos of every teacher's class. When our time came, we paraded down the hall, and out to the front of the school where we climbed risers. Twenty-five of us — or sometimes more — would stand on four or five different levels.

But the excitement came two or three weeks later, when those group photos arrived. If you had smiled at the right time, good for you. But surprisingly, a few blinked, moved, or grimaced at the wrong time...and those are the photos we remember!

tato salad. She screamed, covered her face with a napkin, and raced for the restroom.

I ran after her, asking, "Do you need to go to the hospital?"

"No, no," she said. "I'll be OK."

"But I sure hate to lose face in front of my friends."

Dear Poor Rix: I'm changing apartments, and need ideas about how to make an orderly move. Help! – William from Texas

Poor Rix once read a book on getting organized. Unfortunately, right now it's lost.

First, throw away stuff you don't need, like old gum wrappers, telephone books before 1989, and dead bugs. Keep important things like the TV, the DVD player, and that autographed photo from the mud-wrestling championships.

Next, sort your papers. For instance, school papers go in one pile. Bills and unreturned phone messages go in a different stack. So does toilet paper, unless that's where you write phone messages.

Look under couches, chairs, beds, and cabinets for small items like earrings, necklaces, and watches. Poor Rix found cuff links at one apartment, and wore them proudly until someone told him they were actually paper clips.

Pack boxes by category. A box marked "bed" might contain sheets, bedspread, and pillows. Note: Do not try to put the entire bed in a box, because it would be too hard to lift.

Have you inspected your new apartment? Before you move in, check the carpet for signs of dirt. It's a bad sign if you have to check the dirt for signs of carpet.

Good luck, William, and remember this saying: "It's good to have friends. But it's better to have friends who can help you move."

Poor Rix: Can you figure this out? A recent study claims that those who brush their teeth regularly stay thin, and those who don't get fat. Does brushing burn a lot of calories? My son-in-law, who is a dentist, is awaiting your answer. – Violet, New York

Poor Rix knows little about the mouth, but once gave an oral report. And Poor Rix's teeth aren't all his, but they will be after three more payments.

Several hundred years ago, a person cleaned his teeth with a quill. But if he used that same quill to write a letter with invisible ink,

the next time he picked his teeth he risked becoming a ghostwriter.

The invention of nylon toothbrushes in the late 1930's led to healthier teeth and gums. A few folks were instructed to brush along the gum line, but misunderstood and spit out their gum.

Two recent reports discuss brushing's benefits. The first study says people with gum disease may be more likely to develop narrow blood vessels, which could lead to health problems that might eventually result in the eternal dirt nap.

A second report says if you brush your teeth one minute, it burns three calories. The document adds that people who keep their teeth clean likely pay attention to other health issues, too.

This means that many brushers may also be joggers. But it's hard to do both at the same time without drooling toothpaste.

Dear Poor Rix: What's the difference between a Recession and a Depression? – Student

Remember when you were in school? You'd go out to "recess," and when you came back to the classroom you'd be "depressed" because recess was over.

So...a Recession is when things look bad, but you're too busy playing to worry. A Depression is when a Recession looks good.

Dear Poor Rix: My husband left me to marry my sister. What should I do? – Sibling

No need to send a gift. You've already supplied Sis "something borrowed."

Dear Poor Rix: I sometimes forget where I put my car keys. How can I improve my memory? – Concerned

First, put your keys in the same place every time. Then, say to yourself, "Self, I left my keys on the desk." That is, unless you left them someplace else.

So, where did you leave them? And what was your question again?

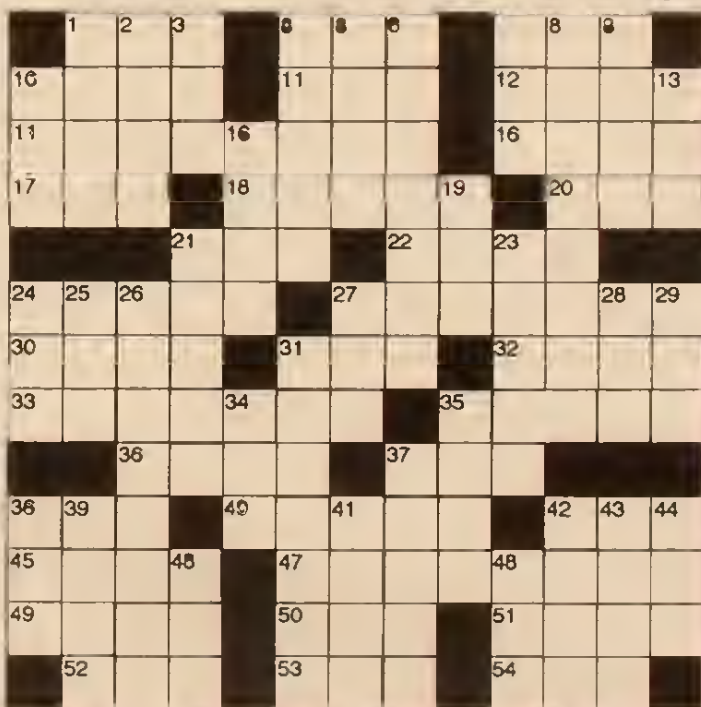
Dear Poor Rix: My nose hair grows really fast, and I can't control it. Any suggestions? – Nostrildamus.

Don't do what my friend did! She had the nasal hair surgically replanted on her brows. But the problem is, whenever she sneezes, she covers her eyes.

Poor Rix — who wrote the new book "Baby Boomers Speak" — welcomes your questions to rxquinn@charter.net

Crossword Puzzle

Solution on Page 6



ACROSS

- 1 Hurry
- 4 Civil Rights Commission (abbr)
- 7 Egg (pref)
- 10 Andes; cold higher region
- 11 Pronoun
- 12 Loms Doone character
- 14 Gushing
- 16 Machine gun
- 17 Flying saucer
- 18 Body of water
- 20 Equal Rights Amendment (abbr)
- 21 African eye worm
- 22 Sound of a bell
- 24 Song of praise
- 27 Evolve

DOWN

- 3 Anatomy (abbr)
- 31 Temporary fashion
- 32 Alb (arch)
- 33 Jewish month
- 35 Caucasus people
- 36 Nipple
- 37 Fluidity unit
- 38 Compass direction
- 40 Portable chair
- 42 Question starter
- 45 Killer of Abel
- 47 Castile (2 words)
- 49 Fire (pref)
- 50 Rubber tree
- 51 Health Opportunity for People Everywhere (abbr)

30

- 30 Anatomy (abbr)
- 31 Temporary fashion
- 32 Alb (arch)
- 33 Jewish month
- 35 Caucasus people
- 36 Nipple
- 37 Fluidity unit
- 38 Compass direction
- 40 Portable chair
- 42 Question starter
- 45 Killer of Abel
- 47 Castile (2 words)
- 49 Fire (pref)
- 50 Rubber tree
- 51 Health Opportunity for People Everywhere (abbr)

52

- 52 Soft drink
- 53 Repose
- 54 Teacher of Samuel
- 1 Fit of sulks
- 2 Information (abbr)
- 3 Water (Fr)
- 4 Girl (Sp)
- 5 Dream (Fr)
- 6 Made
- 7 Alternatives
- 8 Yolk of an egg
- 9 Polish border
- 10 Little (Fr)
- 13 Recombinant letters
- 15 Shortly
- 19 Month (abbr)
- 21 Machine tool

23

- 23 Rent
- 24 Exclamation
- 25 Donkey (Fr)
- 26 Eurus (2 words)
- 27 Israelite tribe
- 28 Laconian clan group
- 29 Favorite
- 31 Dire
- 34 Blood (pref)
- 35 Without (Ger)
- 37 Hindu queen
- 38 School course (abbr)
- 39 Scandinavian legend
- 41 Port. Timor's capital
- 42 Fleece
- 43 Egyptian genie
- 44 Unclose
- 46 Never (Ger)
- 48 Haggard novel

Visitacion Valley Business Directory

Valley free listings in the 415 area code.
Call the Grapevine at (415) 467-9300.

AQUARIUM
DRAGON CITY AQUARIUM, 144 Leland Ave., 333-4598

AUTOMOTIVE
BAYSHORE AUTO, 2260 Bayshore Blvd., 467-6130
BAYSHORE SERVICE, 2586 Bayshore Blvd., 239-5239
BROTHERS AUTO BODY, 2520 Bayshore Blvd.
CHARLES GARAGE, 2550 Bayshore Blvd., 239-7450
T.W. AUTOMOTIVE, 2500 Bayshore Blvd., 585-8281

BANK
BANK OF AMERICA, 6 Leland Ave., 622-4501

BAKERS
LITTLE QUIAPO BAKE SHOP, 169 Leland Ave., 239-2253

BARBERS
BARBERSHOP, 3570 San Bruno Ave., 724-4398
EMMA'S HAIR SALON, 35 Leland Ave., 587-7429
THE SHOP (JB), 160A Leland Ave., 239-6709

BEAUTICIANS
BODY SOUL & SPIRIT, 222 Leland Ave., 333-7251
FACE, BODY & SOUL, 3582 San Bruno Ave., 467-3223
HONG KONG HAIR & NAIL BEAUTY SALON, 199 Leland Ave., 333-1005
LUCKY HAIR, 2436 Bayshore Blvd., 586-8288
MAY MAY BEAUTY SALON, 60 Leland Ave., 337-8081
MIZ REVIAS SALON, 19 Blanken Ave., 467-3399
NAILS BY JENNY, 50 Leland Ave., 333-6800
WHO'S BADD, 224 Leland Ave., 657-3155

BLIND CLEANING
SPEEDY ULTRASONIC BLIND CLEANING (commercial and residential), 1116 Grand St., 467-7506

BOARDING HOUSE
ABLE'S CASA, 850 Rulland St., 333-4664, fax 333-4693

BOOKKEEPERS
AMY ARAGON PROFESSIONAL BOOKKEEPER, 467-8827
VERNA WALLACE E.A., 2320 Bayshore Blvd., 239-5333

CARPETS
HAN SAN INTERIORS, 41 Leland Ave., 333-6382

CHURCHES
CHURCH OF THE VISITACION, 655 Sunnydale Ave., 239-5950
IGLESIA EL ESPIRITU SANTO, 38 Leland Ave.
KOREAN FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, 333 Tunnel Ave., 468-1213
RIDGEVIEW UNITED METHODIST CHURCH, 580 Leland Ave., 239-5457
ST. JAMES PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, 240 Leland Ave., 586-6381
VALLEY BAPTIST CHURCH, 305 Raymond Ave., 467-6055
VISITACION CHINESE BAPTIST CHURCH, 8 Desmond St., 333-4503

COFFEE
CANDLESTICK COFFEE, 2155 Bayshore Blvd., 467-2442
HAPPY DONUT, 2600 Bayshore Blvd., 469-5309
JOE LELAND CAFE, 28 Leland Ave.

CREDIT UNION
NORTHEAST COMMUNITY FEDERAL CREDIT UNION, 29 Leland Ave., 434-0738

DAY CARE
CAROUSEL DAY CARE, 261 Hahn St., 469-5353

DENTIST
VISITACION VALLEY DENTAL OFFICE (Albert Kuan, DDS), 37 Leland Ave., 239-5500

DEVELOPERS
VISITACION VALLEY COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION, 1099 Sunnydale Ave., 587-7895

ELECTRICAL
TATE ELECTRIC (Joel Tate), 467-4657

FLOORS
TEDDY B'S HARDWOOD FLOORS, 309-6342

FLORISTS
IL FIORE FLOWERS, 2466 San Bruno Ave., 468-0145

GARDEN ORNAMENTS
SILVESTRI GARDEN ORNAMENTS, 2636 Bayshore Blvd., 239-5990

GROCERS
CASA LOPEZ PRODUCE, 58 Leland Ave., 586-4745
E-Z STOP MARKET, 2203 Geneva Ave., 586-9240
FIVE MILE MARKET, 3574 San Bruno Ave., 467-7300
K.C. MARKET, 400 Wide St., 467-3024
LA LOMA PRODUCE #2, 65 Leland Ave., 239-7520
LITTLE VILLAGE MARKET, 1450 Sunnydale Ave., 586-1815
M & M SHORTSTOP, 2145 Geneva Ave., 586-0878
PICOLO PETE, 2155 Bayshore Blvd., 468-6800
7-11, 2200 Bayshore Blvd., 468-8646
SHUN LEE MARKET, 2400 Bayshore Blvd., 586-4861
SUPER FAIR MARKET, 201 Leland Ave., 239-6856
TEDDY'S MARKET, 298 Teddy Ave.

HERBS
SAN ON HERBS, 33-A Leland Ave., 333-7469

HYPNOTHERAPY
VALERIE HABEGGER-HYPNOTHERAPY, 371 Teddy Ave., 468-5631

INSURANCE
EDIE EPPS (A.H.E. INSURANCE), 467-0236, Fax 467-0276
ROBERT LEHMAN, CLTC (Blue Cross), 333-0850

KITCHEN CABINETS
LEE CHANG INTERNATIONAL, 25 Leland Ave., 333-2730

LAUNDRY/CLEANERS
BAY WASH, 44 Leland Ave., 333-9457
CITY WASH, 83 Leland Ave., 333-9457
COIN WASH & DRY LAUNDRY, 186 Leland Ave.
FORTY-NINER CLEANERS, 51 Leland Ave., 239-6418
LELAND AVENUE CLEANERS, 151 Leland Ave., 586-1412
VALLEY LAUNDRY, 90 Leland Ave.
VISITACION VALLEY LAUNDRY, 108 Leland Ave., 239-9030

LEARNING
FIRST PLACE 2 START, 1252 Sunnydale Ave., 333-2659
HERITAGE HOMES CHILD AND FAMILY DEVELOPMENT CENTER, 245 Rey St., 586-8700
JOHN KING CHILD AND FAMILY DEVELOPMENT CENTER, 500 Raymond Ave., 333-1375
VISITACION VALLEY COMMUNITY BEACON CENTER, 450 Raymond Ave., 452-4907
VISITACION VALLEY COMMUNITY CENTER CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS, 103 Tucker Ave., 467-5565
VISITACION VALLEY FAMILY SCHOOL, 325 Leland Ave., 585-9320

LIBRARY
VISITACION VALLEY BRANCH, 45 Leland Ave., 239-5270

MANUFACTURER
SEES CANDIES, INC., 345 Schwen St.

MEDICAL
AMERICAN RED CROSS, BAY AREA CHAPTER, 1704 Sunnydale Ave., 584-3520
HAWKINS VILLAGE MEDICAL CLINIC (Dept. of Public Health), 1099 Sunnydale Ave., Appointments: 715-0310
DR. SAM HO, MD, 2858 San Bruno Ave., 337-6135
NEW CARNIVAL ACUPRESSURE HEALTH CENTER, 2458 Bayshore Blvd., 337-8100

NORTHEAST MEDICAL SERVICES, LELAND AVENUE, 82 Leland Ave., 391-9686 (ask for Leland Avenue clinic)

PORTOLA FOOT & ANKLE CLINIC (Dr. Divyang Patel), 2858 San Bruno Ave., 467-7500

NOTARY
ROYAL PACIFIC MORTGAGE, 46 Leland Ave., 333-4900

ORGANIZATIONS
ASIAN PACIFIC AMERICAN COMMUNITY CENTER, 2442 Bayshore Blvd., 587-2689
GENEVA TERRACE PROPERTY OWNERS ASSOCIATION, 60 Burr Ave., 584-2700
GIRL SCOUTS OF AMERICA, 2050 Sunnydale Ave., 333-Schwen St., 584-4044
JOHN KING SENIOR COMMUNITY, 500 Raymond Ave., 239-5233
LELAND HOUSE, 141 Leland Ave., 405-2000
ROCK (Real Options for City Kids), 590 Leland Ave., 333-4001
VISITACION VALLEY SENIOR CENTER, 66 Raymond Ave., 467-4499

PHARMACY
VISITACION VALLEY PHARMACY, 100 Leland Ave., 239-5811

PHOTOGRAPHER
WALTER CORBIN PHOTOGRAPHY (freelance), 435 Sawyer St., 587-9471, fax 337-8620

PLUMBING
MARK VOELKER PLUMBING, 99 Arieta Ave., 467-7401

POST OFFICE
VISITACION USPO, 68 Leland Ave., (800) 275-8777

REAL ESTATE
JUSTYNA P. TO, (Realtor, Coldwell Banker), (650) 757-8968, Mobile (415) 830-1235, Fax (650) 246-1910
LAFLUE-WALTON & ASSOCIATES, 2428 Bayshore Blvd., 587-8683
CATHY KLINE SAUNDERS (Zephyr Real Estate), 215 West Portal Ave., 731-5011 ex. 163

RESTAURANTS
BAYSIDE CAFE, 2011 Bayshore Blvd., 467-2023
HAPPY FAMILY FAST FOOD, 107 Leland Ave., 333-8999
G & L BAKERY & RESTAURANT, 198 Leland Ave., 239-6283
LUAN FAT BAKERY, 110 Leland Ave., 585-1167
NAYANT TAQUERIA, 98 Leland Ave., 587-7721
TWO JACK'S, 167 Leland Ave., 337-0433

SCULPTOR
CARTORIALS (Mikal Cantor), 2 Hahn St., 239-4138

SELF-DEVELOPMENT
DYNAMIC DEVELOPMENTS (Marjorie Ann Williams, CEO, Career and Self-Enhancements Specialist), 467-7608

SERVICE PROVIDERS
THE VILLAGE, 1099 Sunnydale Ave., 239-5045
VISITACION VALLEY BAPTIST CHURCH OUTREACH CENTER, 57 Leland Ave.
VISITACION VALLEY BILINGUAL EDUCATION, SUPPORTIVE SERVICES & TRAINING (VVBSST), 120 Leland Ave.
VISITACION VALLEY COMMUNITY CENTER (VVCC), 50 Raymond Ave., 467-6400
VVCC FAMILY & COMMUNITY SERVICES CENTER, 161 Leland Ave., 586-6998, Fax 586-8027
VISITACION VALLEY BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES AND OUTREACH TO MERCHANTS (VVBOOM), 1099 Sunnydale Ave., 587-7896 ext. 104

TELEPHONE
O & A WIRELESS, 78 Leland Ave., 452-4139

VARIETY
GOLDEN 99 CENTS ZONE, 5-7 Leland Ave., 333-3923

Health Fair Offers Free Services to All Seniors

In celebration of Older Americans Month, University of the Pacific, Arthur A. Dugoni School of Dentistry will host its 14th annual Senior Smiles Health Fair in San Francisco on Saturday, May 3 from 9 a.m. to 12 noon.

Bay Area seniors, age 55 and older, will receive complimentary dental evaluations, nutrition counseling, blood pressure testing and medication management counseling, as well as cholesterol, glucose and bone density screenings at the Main Clinic's C Level 2155 Webster St. (at Sacramento Street). Appointments are not necessary.

University of the Pacific, Arthur A. Dugoni School of Dentistry is regarded as one of the nation's leading dental schools and is committed to excellence in student-centered education, research and patient care. The dental school has served the Bay Area community for 111 years. Its clinics in San Francisco, Union City and Stockton offer quality, affordable dental care to adults and children throughout Northern California.



You Deserve Your Tax Refund

Free Tax Preparation, Electronic Filing

A family can earn up to \$4,716 if claiming

\$438 = No Children

\$2,853 = One Child

\$4,716 = More Than One Child

For appointments, call

415-452-4907 Ext.3002

Visitacion Valley Beacon Center
450 Raymond Avenue

Visitacion Valley Family and Community Services Center



For a Better, Healthier, Safer Community for All

We Can Help You!

Complete Immigration documents, assist with SF County paperwork (Medi-Cal, Welfare, etc.), education workshops, referrals to other services

First Series of
**Building Literacy
With Games
and Activities**
"Expressing Emotions"
66 Raymond Ave.
Saturday, April 12
10:30 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Facilitator: Meriam Abalos

First Series of
Parents' Support Group
Thursday, April 3
4:30 - 6:30 p.m.

Communication - Listening in Neutral

Free dinner and childcare!
Participants with children ages 0-5 encouraged.
Facilitated by Julia Carmen, *Before The After*

Every Wednesday

April 2, 9, 16, 23 and 30
6 - 8 p.m.

Men's Classes
Facilitated by
Before The After
FREE Refreshments



Free Food Distribution

Every Monday,
3 - 4 p.m.
April 7, 14, 21 and 28
Emergency food box
available anytime.
Call (415) 586-6998,
Monday-Friday,
9 a.m.-5 p.m.

April 2008 Activities

held at 161 Leland Avenue
except where noted

Enhanced Information and Referral

Every Monday Through Friday
April 1 to 30, 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Family Outdoor Adventure

Malibu Redwood City for Ages 5 to 13 Only
Saturday, April 19, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Free Transportation, Admissions, Breakfast and Lunch
Space Limited to 15 Families. Call (415) 586-6998 to reserve.

Four Weeks of Parenting Classes

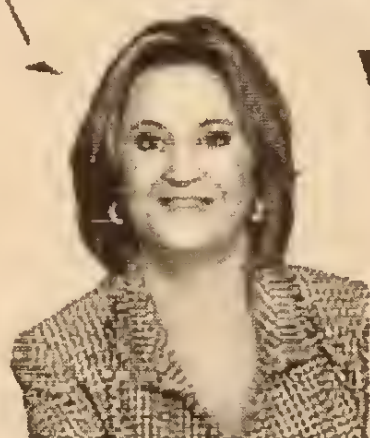
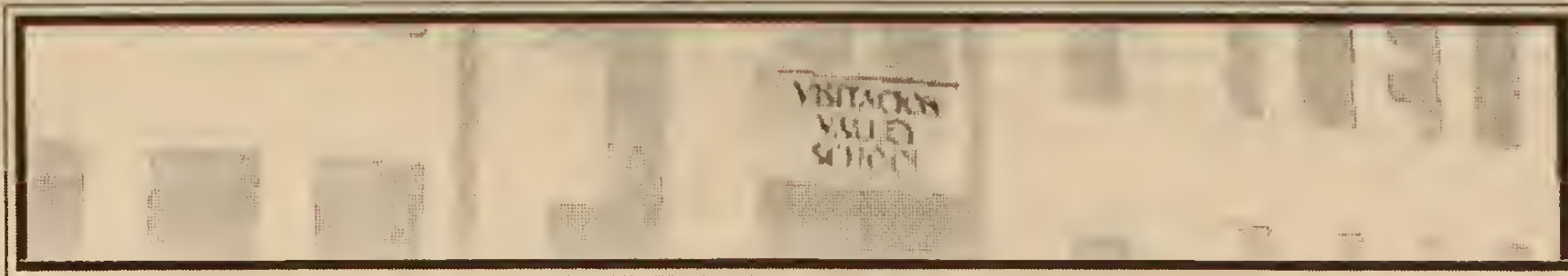
4:30 to 6:30 p.m., Space Limited to 12.
Thursday, April 10: Nutrition with Jenny Lam, UCSF;
April 24, Discipline with Sam Devore, Metro Fresh Start

For more information, please contact the
Family and Community Services Center staff:
Meriam T. Abalos, Marichelle Punzalan,
Cynthia Pun, Joyce Boone, and Jenny Sosa
161 Leland Ave., San Francisco, 94134



161 Leland Avenue, San Francisco, CA 94134

Tel: (415) 586-6998 Fax: (415) 586-8027 e-mail: meriam_vvcc@sbcglobal.net



I have been studying
Visitacion Valley
for a long Time.

Cathy Kline Saunders
CRS 2006

For All Your Real Estate Needs, Call

Cathy Kline Saunders

415.731.5011 x 163

Z
ZEPHYR
REAL ESTATE